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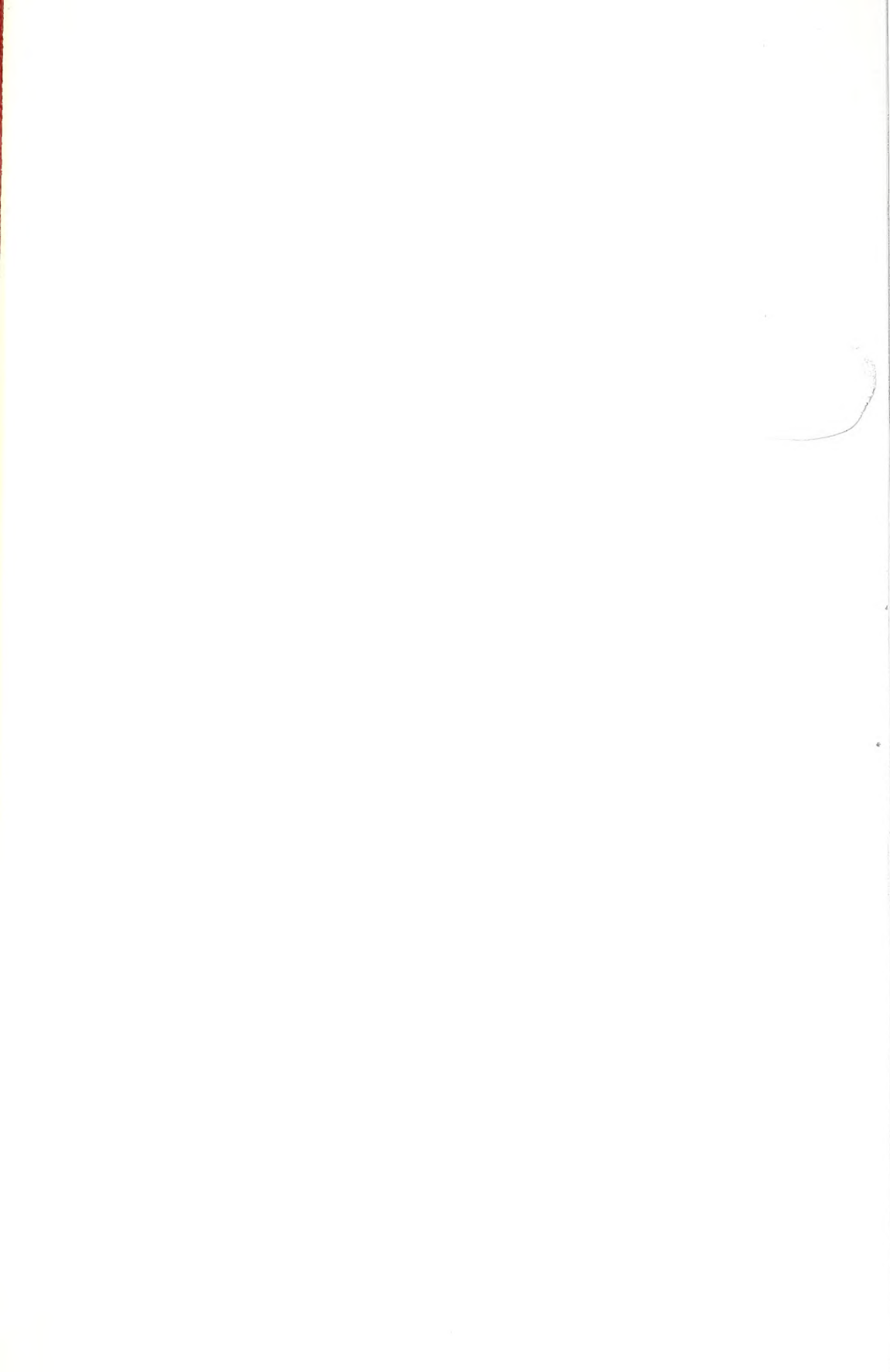
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A HISTORY

OF THE ✓

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

CONNECTICUT.

BY

REV. SAMUEL ORCUTT.

AUTHOR OF THE HISTORIES OF WOLCOTT, TORRINGTON, NEW MILFORD, DERBY,
STRATFORD, AND INDIANS OF THE HOUSATONIC VALLEY.

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PUBLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE
FAIRFIELD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

1887.

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PREFACE.

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HIS book is the same in matter and illustrations as the Bridgeport part of the "History of Stratford and Bridgeport," with the addition of the Supplementary papers. It was believed that a number of copies of this part of the larger work might be wanted by persons not particularly interested in Stratford history, but who would like to have a history of Bridgeport.

In the preparation of this work the author has been greatly aided by many citizens, especially by R. B. Lacey, Esq., Major W. B. Hincks and George C. Waldo, Esq.; the two former of these had been engaged for quite a number of years in making valuable collections, and the latter was familiar as well as they in modern information concerning the city. About thirty years ago Mr. Lacey persuaded Isaac Sherman, Esq., to write his recollections of Stratfield and Bridgeport, in connection with a map of the territory. These two productions have been of great service in presenting this work in the form in which it is now printed, making the record so much more complete than it otherwise could have been.

The author and the public in general are greatly indebted to the Fairfield County Historical Society, for had that society not been organized this book would not have been written. Their cordial commendatory support, and the financial aid rendered by a number of its members,

with others, have been the basis of action from the commencement to the completion of the work; and to them the author cheerfully acknowledges his many obligations. He has also great pleasure in acknowledging the honor and value bestowed upon the work by those persons who have contributed illustrations to it, especially the steel plate prints, which are first-class in the art of engraving, by which in a few years the book will be invaluable.

The labor of producing this book has been continued among the most agreeable associations which have ever fallen to the lot of the writer, and it is almost with regret that he closes the work by subscribing himself,

THE AUTHOR.

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ERRATA.

- Page 41—Under the title Benjamin Hubbell should read, Polly, who m. Gale Ensign and had Howell.
- Page 71—The record should be Abigail Hurd, not "Rebecca."
- Page 86—"Charles H." should be Charles R. Brothwell.
- Page 137—12th line from bottom "1692" should be 1792.
- Page 163—Thaddeus "Barr" should be Burr.
- Page 211—"Harwinton" should be Rev. Daniel Harrington.
- Page 240—The title should be Parallel Railroad Company, and H. R. Parrott, president of the company as well as of the Board of Directors.
- Page 290—"Griffin" should be Grippin.
- Page 246—"Northnagle" should be Nothnagle.
- Page 327—"Both sides of Wall and State" should be both sides of Bank and State streets.

CHAPTER I.

STRATFIELD SOCIETY.



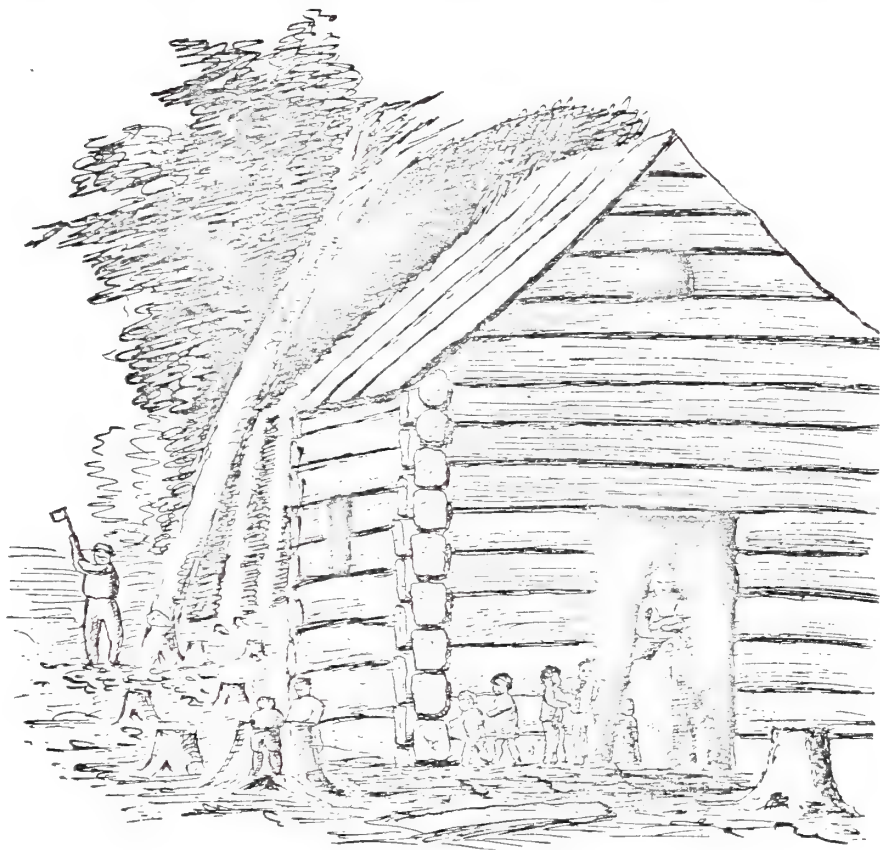
RIDGEPORT, denominated Park City, stands on the shore of Long Island Sound, fifty-five miles from New York City. The locality, when first seen by English people, was the site of an Indian village of about one hundred and fifty wigwams, occupied by five or six hundred Indians, of the Pequonnock settlement or tribe. The southern part of the territory for about a mile in width was a part of a fertile plain of a sandy, gravelly and loamy soil, extending along the shore of the Sound from the mouth of the Housatonic River to Southport, a distance of twelve miles. This plain when discovered by the English was covered with forests only in part, there being intervening fields, which in places were cultivated by the Indians in raising corn. At a distance of about a mile from the shore, the hills begin to rise, and continue gradually northward for twelve or fifteen miles, furnishing a fine farming country, and many most picturesque localities.

The City of Bridgeport being so favorably situated, it could, if it should ever see fit, extend itself to a half million of inhabitants, with perfect safety to health, ease of access, charming picturesqueness of local parts, and unsurpassed salubrity of atmosphere from the great ocean and the hills of the country.

With these advantages in its favor, Bridgeport has become a city of about forty thousand inhabitants, and the story of its growth, from the first few families which sat down among the Indians about the year 1665, until it reached

its present maturity of numbers, is to be briefly told in the succeeding pages.

Two families at first located west of the Pequonnock river within the township of Stratford. These were Henry Summers, Sen., and Samuel Gregory, and their first houses



THE LOG HOUSE OF 1665.

were probably log houses,¹ located near the present junction of Park and Washington avenues.

¹ The accompanying cut of the log-house was drawn by Esquire Isaac Sherman, as representing the kind of house some of his ancestors at Pequonnock resided in at their first settlement here.

At that time there were no highways laid out in the vicinity. A reservation of four rods wide on the east side of the boundary line between Fairfield and Stratford, for a highway, had been made in laying out the lots of land along that line, but the highway had not been surveyed. A well-worn Indian path, which served as a cartway, passed to the northeast over Golden Hill where now Washington avenue is located; which was made a legal highway in 1686, and passed diagonally through the Indians' Reservation. The one hundred and more wigwams were mostly located near the springs on the southern declivity of Golden Hill.

It was in 1687, when the King's highway, now North avenue, was laid out, and still later when the Toilsome Hill road, now Park avenue, was surveyed.

The one relieving social comfort to these earliest settlers, although there were a few neighbors residing at Old Mill Green, was the fact that the Fairfield men had crowded out eastward nearly to Stratford line, for Col. John Burr's home had been established some years, when the celebrated Indian council was held under the oak tree in May, 1681, which was about half a mile west from Samuel Gregory's house.²

The Indians were so numerous that the children of these families were afraid to go out of their dwellings, and if they were out and saw an Indian coming they ran with great fright to get into their houses. Persons are now living who have seen those who heard others tell how dreadfully afraid they were of the Indians when they were children, and had many times run to enter their homes to escape the coming Indians; and the Indian children, it is said, were equally afraid of the white people.

Thus began the home of the white man, where now sits the queen of the realm—the city of Bridgeport, with her towering spires, fine public buildings, elegant residences and beautiful parks. Then there were only two families, now there are ten thousand, nearly. But it was so long ago! two hundred and fifteen years. The first hundred years produced only a farming community, with beautiful fields, comely residences and a numerous, toiling, happy people, with now and

² See page 49 of the History of Old Stratford and Bridgeport.

then a vessel sailing out of the harbor. The next fifty-nine years gave the embryo city, and the life of that city for sixty-one years gives the aggregate of nearly forty thousand living



THE BURR HOUSE AND THE HISTORIC OAK TREE. (See page 3.)

souls. Then there were two log houses and a hundred wigwams; now the blazing sunlight is dazzled by its own reflected rays, from ten thousand roofs, spires, minarets, castles and domes lifted towards the king of day by skilled, artistic hands. Then the weary ox dragged slowly the jolting cart along the stumpy highway as if an age were too short for the journey of a day, now the flying monster engine drives along upon the polished steel as if a day were too long for the journey of an age, and the blazing electric fires dispel the midnight darkness that of yore was far too long for the sleep of man. The farmer in his manly frock of tow plowed the smooth fields and gathered in his abundant harvest from year to year with increasing pleasure and gain; while his womanly wife spun the tow to make the frock and provided the frugal, healthful repast, by the strength of which the harvests were gathered and the homes made comfortable, cheerful and attractive to kindred and friends far and near. But the charming old country homes have long since departed to give place to their burnished city successors.

Such was the ordinary life eighty and a hundred years ago, where now the streets are thronged with rich costumes of silks and satins, and gay, brilliantly ornamented equipages, the product of a marvelous growth of industrial and commercial enterprises, such as is not frequent in New England.

Here grew up on these farms a multitude of strong, enterprising young men, who, fortunately, are not all yet departed to the land of rest, by the strength of their paternal, physical and intellectual inheritances, have made a fame of honor at home and abroad, for their native place, such as to challenge the rivalry of all neighboring regions or countries; and with these young men grew up also, beautiful, intelligent and finely cultivated young ladies, the equal in every respect to their accomplished brothers and successful men of the community.

But in order to a full understanding of the great changes which have taken place in this locality, and the success which has marked the enterprising efforts of the people, it is necessary to review the history of two hundred and twenty years, or from 1665 to 1885, by an abbreviated account of the various stages through which the citizens of this locality have passed.

The third and fourth settlers in this place were apparently Capt. John Beardsley, near Samuel Gregory's home, on now Park avenue, and his brother Samuel Beardsley, east of the site of the present Bridgeport jail, or as one of the deeds says, "west of Ireland's brook and north of the Fairfield road."

Not long after, Samuel Wells, son of the first John, established his home in what is now the southern part of Bridgeport, east side of Park avenue, and there dwelt until his decease and his descendants after him for about one hundred years.

Then soon came other settlers in the northern part of Bridgeport, a Hawley family, a Booth family and Sherman family, and others, pushing the settlement several miles back into the woods. There came also a number of families from Fairfield, and one, Samuel French, from Derby. Although the progress was slow they continued to grow in numbers and wealth. At the end of twenty-two years they petitioned for church privileges, but did not succeed until twenty-five years had passed.

The Stratfield Ecclesiastical Society.

The movement began by the organization of a school, which is described by Maj. Wm. B. Hincks in his "Historical Notes," as follows:³

"The oldest document signed by the inhabitants of the plantation as such, that I have been able to find any account of, is a petition to the General Court dated May, 1678, subscribed by Isaac Wheeler, John Odell, Sr., and Matthew Sherwood, in behalf of the people of the place. The distance of nearly four miles that separates them from Fairfield Centre is too great, they say, to be easily traversed by the children, especially the younger ones, and therefore they had set up a school of their own, and employed an experienced teacher. Forty-seven children were already in attendance. The ex-

³ Historical Notes, 32.

pense of the school they propose to bear themselves, but ask to be freed from taxation for the benefit of the one in Fairfield. Rev. Samuel Wakeman, minister at Fairfield, adds a favorable indorsement to the petition, though most of his parishioners were opposed to granting it. The General Court referred the matter to the Fairfield county Court, with power to act, and recommended that body to make an allowance to the petitioners, equal to or greater than their annual school-tax."⁴

This action of the General Assembly applied only to the inhabitants of Fairfield, residing at Pequonnock, for the inhabitants of Pequonnock, in Stratford township, had a school on the east side of the line very early, at least soon after the organization of the Fairfield Village Society; and it is probable that before that they attended school at Stratford village.

Whether the people of Pequonnock held services before the year 1690, may be a question, since Mr. Chauncey gave a receipt, as follows, except a little part of it which is torn from the page of the record book.

"—— said inhabitants to me the said —— the year sixteen hundred eyghtey and eight to the year sixteen hundred ninetey and foure exclusively, that I doe fully and freely—as above said inhabitants and their heirs forever from —— as above said from me or my heirs, &c.: I doe —— of December, seventeen hundred ——.

Subscribed, CHARLES CHAUNCEY."

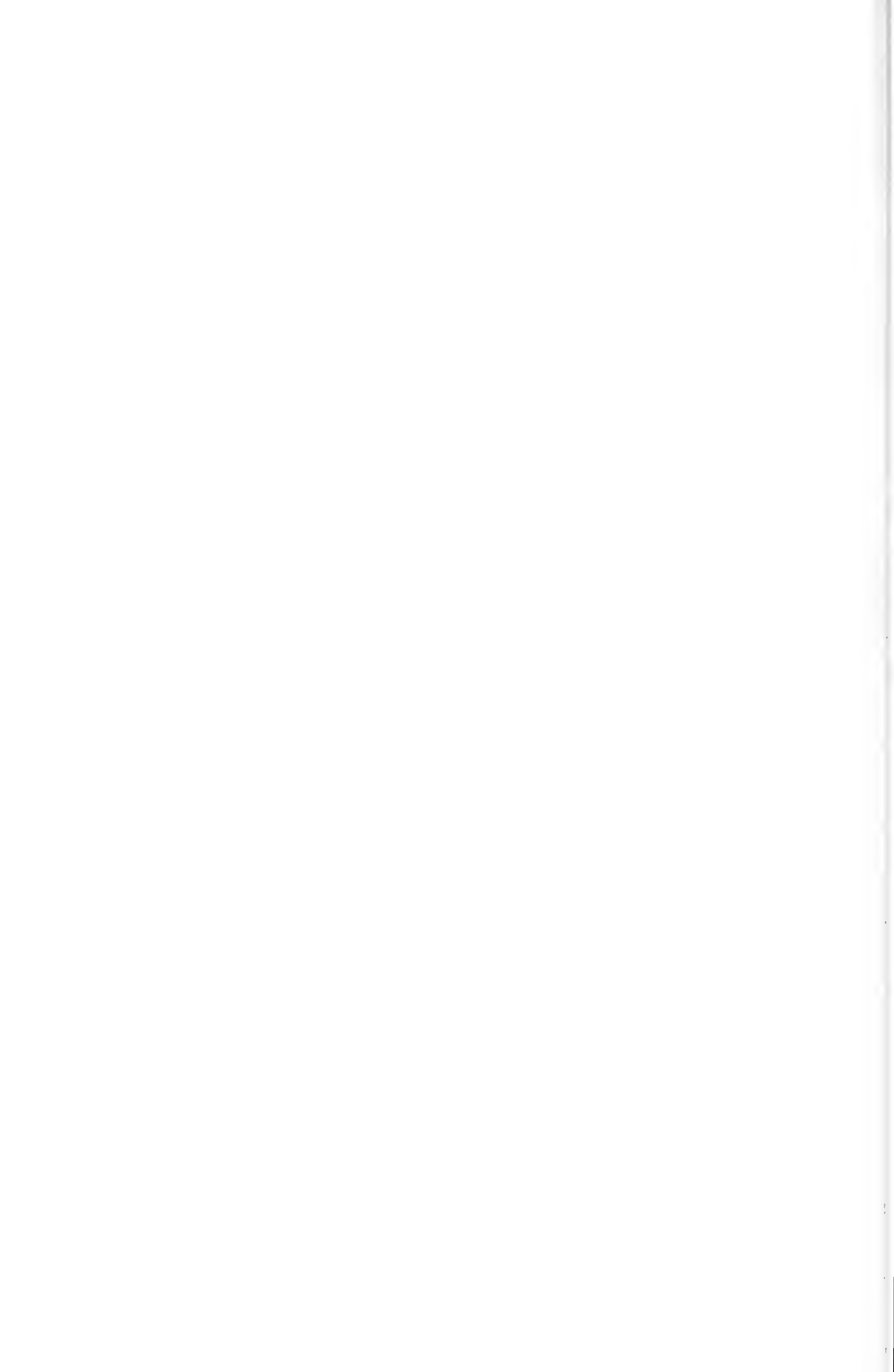
This indicates that he had served the people as a minister or school teacher from 1688 to 1694, but had given no receipt for the salary they were obligated to pay him, and hence the receipt was given in 1700.

The first page of the earliest Society's book contains the following record:

"The Records of the Acts of the Society of Fairfield Village, began in the year 1693.

It was then voted pr. the said Society that Mr. Charles Chauncey for his encouragement in the ministry in this place shall have sixty pounds in good provisions for the year ensu-

⁴ Col. Rec., iii. 8.



ing to be paid him by way of Rate, each man according to the list of his estate given in.

"March 19, 1694. At a meeting of the Society of this place it was voted that Mr. Charles Chauncey should have for his encouragement in the ministry sixty pounds in good provisions pay, for the year ensuing, to be raised by way of Rate according to custom."

The proprietors of undivided lands in Stratford, having given certain lands to other societies in the town, gave to this, in 1719, several acres of land, and afterward added to the number. "Granted to our neighbors of Stratfield parish that belong to Stratford fifteen acres of pasture land . . . for and towards the support of a Presbyterian minister amongst them forever, for the only benefit of our neighbors belonging to Stratford."

"170⁸, Mr. Jos. Bennitt of Stratfield, having payd full satisfaction ——— majority of merchants in Stratfield for his trading in said place—Merchant: the said society do acknowledge the same and authorize it to be entered on the record of Stratfield, Joseph Bennit, Merchant. Voted as above.

SAMUEL HUBBELL, Clerk."

This shows that a merchant was established in the place by the vote of the society.

Twelve years later the second petition was sent to the General Assembly, signed by forty-six tax-payers for ecclesiastical privileges, which furnishes, probably, nearly a complete list of the householders in the settlement in the year 1690.⁶

⁶ STATE PAPERS, ECCLESIASTICAL, I, 105. COPY FURNISHED TO MAJ. WM. B. HINCKS, BY THE COURTESY OF MR. C. J. HOADLY, STATE LIBRARIAN.

Petition for Ecclesiastical Privileges.

"To the Gen^l Court of Connecticut (whom we honor), in their next session at Hartford.

We, the inhabitants and persons of Poquannock, do in all humility address and apply ourselves unto you in mann^r method and form following:

Manifesting unto this honor^d respected representative body that this vicinity of Poquannock afores^d appertaineth part to the town of Fairfield, and part to the town of Stratford, unto which two townships it hath been fully responsible according to obligations, for meeting house and school dues, rates and assessments; we, the dwellers there, have to the towns we have been engaged to, ever punct-

At that time, Fairfield opposed the request of the petitioners, and it was not granted, but in May, 1694, they renewed their request, and no opposition being offered, liberty was granted to organize a society. The acquiescence of the Fairfield and Stratford churches was perhaps due to the influence of the Rev. Israel Chauncey, who had interested himself in their behalf.

Of the forty-six names attached to the petition of 1790, thirteen of them, and perhaps others, were inhabitants of Stratford, residing west of the Pequonnock river.

ually paid our acknowledgements, taxes and charges, as we have from time to time been laid under such bonds and indisputable engagements. But now since we are by the blessing and grace of Almighty God risen and advanced to somewhat more maturity and ripeness, and grown more populous than before, in capacity to stand within ourselves, without running for succor six or seven miles on one hand, and at least four on the other; we doe make it our joynt ardent request and passionate petition to this honour'd esteem'd Court, that you would in the greatness of your goodness, and out of your sincere zeal to the comfort of this part every way, so order it in your new convention that wee, every one of us, that are settled inhabitants of and steady dwellers in Poquonnock, may be exempted and relaxed from any minister's rate or rates and schooll mastours salerys, either in Fairfield or Stratford aforesd, purposing (God smiling on and favouring our enterprises) to suit o'selves in time convenient wth such meet instrum^{ts} for ye pulpit and scholl, as may most and best serve the interest of our God, and do our souls and children most good; such as shall bee most painfull pious and profitable for these ends to wth they were ordain'd, and are improv'd. And your humb. petitioners shall ever continue to pray for your long life and prosperity, subsigning this our address, dated 2^d May, 1690.

John Bardsle, Sr.,	Sam ^l Hubbell,	Ephraim Wheller,
Richard Hobbell, Sr.,	Sam ^l Bardsley, Sr.,	Daniel Bardsle,
Matthew Sherwood,	Samuel Hall,	Samuel French,
Sam ^l Wells,	David Sherman,	Samu ^l Hubbell,
Isaac Wheeler,	Richard Hubell,	Timothy Wheller,
James Benitt,	Samuel Gregory,	Thomas Benit,
David Reynolds,	Sam ^l Tredwell,	Ed. Tredwell,
Nath ^l Knap,	John Odell, Sr.,	Jacob Joy,
Will Barsley,	Izhak Hall,	John Odell, Junr.,
Matthew Sharwood, Jr.,	John Wheller,	John Benitt, Jr.,
Isack Wheeler, Sr.,	Thomas Wheller,	Thos. Morhous, Jr.,
Thomas Griffin,	Joseph Seely,	John Sherwood,
Roburd Bishop,	Moses Jackson, Jr.,	Joseph Joy,
Sam ^l Morhous	Samu ^l Jackson,	Sam ^l Sumers.
Jacobe Wakelen,	Matthew Sherwood, Jr.,	
Samuel Bardsle,	Moses Jackson, Sr.,	

In May, 1691, the Court granted liberty to the inhabitants at Pequonnock "to procure and settle an orthodox minister among them if they find themselves able so to do, and provided that those of Paquonnock that do belong to Fairfield township shall pay their just proportion of rate towards the maintenance of the ministry in Fairfield till they can obtain freedom of Fairfield or from this Court."

The next October they were released from paying to the support of the ministry at Fairfield while they supported a minister among themselves.

In May, 1694, permission was given to organize a church and the name Pequonnock was changed to Fairfield Village; and this name was changed by the Court in May, 1701, to Stratfield.

The town of Stratford treated the Stratfield people with a good degree of friendship and favor.

"December 29, 1692. The neighbors at Paquonnock requested of the town liberty that in case the good people at Paquonnock should see cause to build a meeting house there at Paquonnock the liberty to set the said house part upon Stratford bounds, and said town by vote granted the same."

Therefore the probability is that the first meeting-house was located on the boundary line, half on Stratford, and half on Fairfield territory.

In 1696,⁶ and 1697, and perhaps several years after, the town remitted to the society one-third part of their town taxes.

"In 1693, the foundation of a house of worship was laid on an eminence in the upper part of Division street [Park avenue] a few rods south of the King's highway [North avenue]. This height affords a pleasant view of the surrounding

⁶ "Jan. 13, 1696. Lt. John Beardsley with ye rest of our loving neighbors at Paquonnock, inhabitants of Stratford, requesting yt. ye town would be pleased to consider them in the present town rate and make them some abatement in consideration yt they apprehend themselves not equally privileged with ye rest of ye town in some causes of expense, and the town did by vote grant the request and give order to ye town treasurer to give to them our said neighbors credit one-third of their town rate respectively."

"Jan. 19, 1697. It was voted that our loving neighbors at ye Village should be allowed one-third part of their town rate for ye year past."

country and is still called Meetinghouse Hill. The building, though small, was not completed until 1695, and in the mean time it is probable that the people gathered upon the Sabbath in a private house, having already provided themselves with a pastor.⁷

The Stratfield Ecclesiastical Society was the first one in the Colony, not being a town, fully organized as independent of all other societies, and hence it was necessary for the General Assembly to define its privileges and powers. This was done as follows :

"August 1, 1699. Liberties granted to Fairfield Village by the Assembly :

"1 Impr. To make choice annually of two or three persons who shall have power to order meetings of the society, their ministers' rates, and what concerns may be about their meeting house.

"2d. To choose collectors of the rates, and that they shall have power by virtue of a writ from lawful authority of non-payment to distrain.

"3d. To choose a constable whose power shall reach from west side of Pequonnock River unto the utmost bounds of the village, westward according to the limitations granted Commission officers: the village consisting partly of Fairfield and of Stratford.

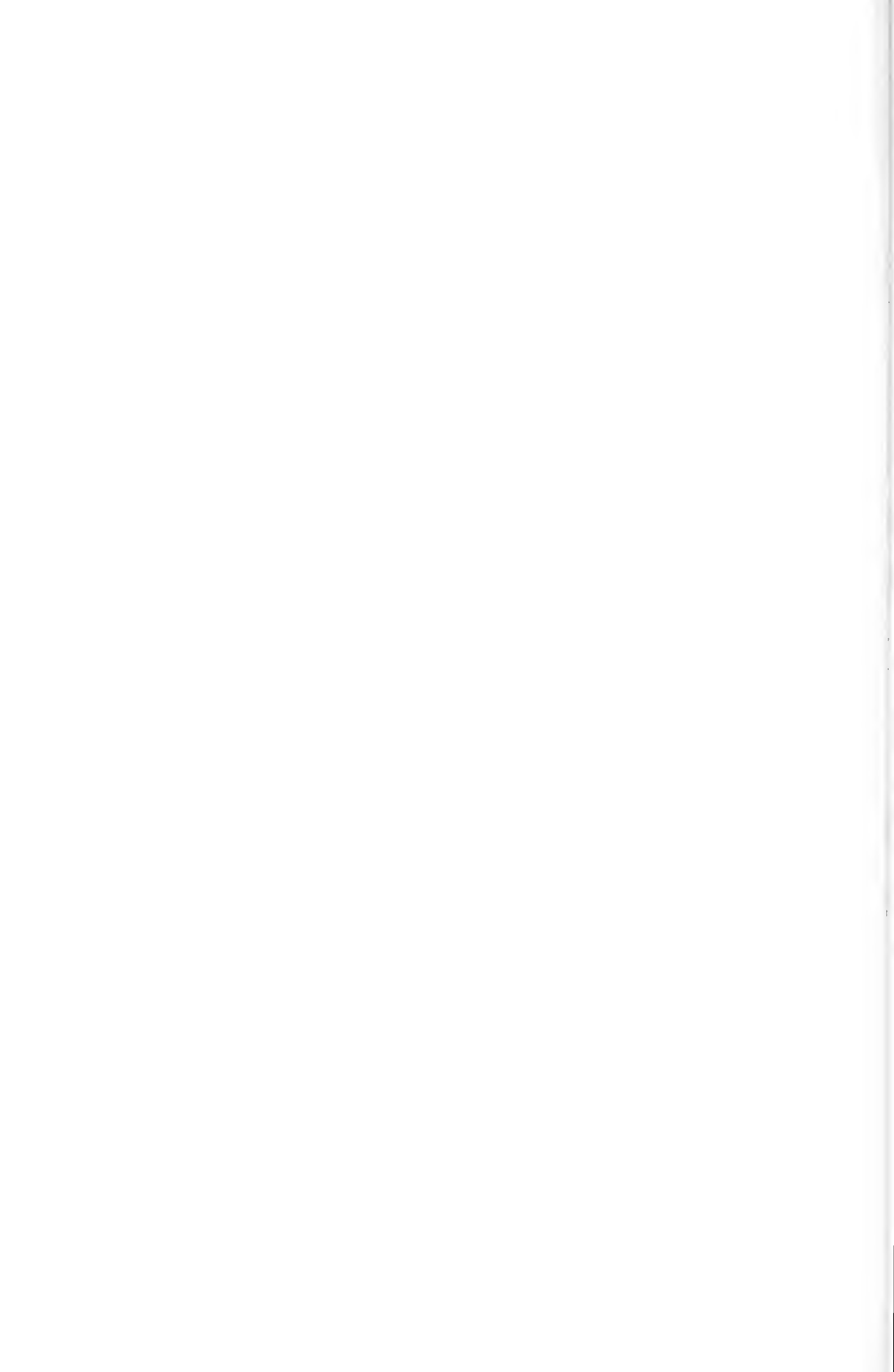
"4th. That they shall have liberty to choose annually a society recorder to be sworn to that work."

In 1717, the privileges and powers of ecclesiastical societies were further defined; and in 1723, still further.*

In the case of the second society organized by law in Stratford village, to which Mr. Zachariah Walker ministered, it was in part under the officers and control of the first society, or the town, for so far as seen it had no officers elected by the town; but the Stratfield society was granted several offices to be filled by its own election, in 1699. Previous to this, a part of the time at least if not all, its recorder was that of the town of Fairfield; and its own special officers, if it had any, had not civil authority.

⁷ Historical Notes, by Major W. B. Hincks, 35.

⁸ See foot note on pages 302 and 303 of History of Old Stratford.



The boundaries of the Fairfield Village on the western side were not particularly specified as became necessary, and on petition the General Assembly in May, 1701, established them definitely, and changed the name from Fairfield Village to that of Stratfield,⁹ a name formed from the first part of the word Stratford and the last part of Fairfield.

In May, 1702, this society received its part of the State money for schools according to the following act:¹⁰

"Ordered by this Assembly, that the constable or constables of Fairfield and Stratford, or those to whom orders shall be sent annually for the payment of the schools there, shall pay to the schoolmaster of Stratfield, so much as ariseth upon their part of the list at forty shillings upon every thousand pounds, according to the late law for Schools."

The ecclesiastical Society being fully organized, it thereby became the territory for a military company, and hence in October, 1703, "David Sherman was appointed Ensign of the train band in Stratfield."¹¹

The next spring the complement of officers was made more complete by the appointment of "Lieut. John Beardsley to be Captain of the train band of Stratfield, and Lieut. James Bennet to be their Lieutenant."¹² Capt. John Beardsley

⁹ "May 1701. This Assembly having heard and considered the petition or request of the inhabitants of Fairfield Village presented to them by Lieut. James Bennett, desiring that the Court would state and settle for them a line for the west boundary to their plantation, &c., do order and enact: That the line to be the west boundary of the said plantation shall run so that it may take in and include within their bounds, one Moses Jackson, miller, his housing and lands, and run on the west side of old Jackson's lotts (viz): pasture, building lot, and long lot, upwards or northwards to the upward or northern end of the bounds of the town of Fairfield, and that all such person or persons as have built or shall build and inhabit on the east side of the abovesaid line, and on the west side of Poquannack River, shall pay to all public charges that shall arise in the said plantation his ratable part thereof.

"Provided always: That this act shall in no wise hinder or abridge the inhabitants of said plantation, of using and holding the privilege of feeding sheep to the westward of the abovesaid line, as it was granted to them formerly by the inhabitants of the town of Fairfield.

"And further it is enacted by the authority aforesaid: That the said plantation (formerly called Poquannuck and Fairfield village) shall for the future be called by the name of Stratfield."—Col. Rec., iv. 356.

¹⁰ Col. Rec., iv. 384.

¹¹ Col. Rec., iv. 445.

¹² Col. Rec., iv. 476.

had been lieutenant at Stratford many years, and James Bennett the same at Fairfield.

The following is a copy of the first page of the Stratfield earliest church record book.

"The Church of Christ in Stratfield (formerly called Poquannuck) was gathered, and Charles Chauncey was ordained the Pastor thereof, June 13, 1695.

"The Names of those that at that time were embodied into Church estate were as followeth:

"CHARLES CHAUNCEY, Past^r.

"Richard Hubble, sen ^r ,	Mathew Sherman,
Isaac Wheeler, sen ^r ,	Rich ^d Hubble, jun ^r ,
James Bennit, sen ^r ,	David Sherman,
Samu ^l Beardsley,	Jn ^o Odill, jun ^r .
Samuel Gregory, sen ^r ,	

"The Names of those that were afterwards received by vertue of Letters Dismissory or Recommendatory from other Churches were as followeth:

<i>From Fairfield Church.</i>	Mary Sherwood,	<i>From Stratford Church.</i>	Abigaill Hubble,
	Anne Wheeler,		Mary Bennit,
	Mary Odill,		Abigaill Beardsley,
	Rebecca Gregory,		Abigaill Wakely,
	Ruth Tredwell,		Temperance Hubble.
	Mercy Wheeler,		Mercy Sherman,
	Abigaill Wells,		Their letter was read and
	Elizabeth Sherwood,		accepted, July 10, 1695.
	Sarah Odill.		
	Their letter was read and		
	accepted Anno 1695.		

"Concord. Joseph Wheeler and his wife. Their letter was read and accepted.

"From the Church of Christ, Norwalk; Mary Jackson, her letter was read December 20, 1697, and accepted.

"Stratford. Hannah Fairchild; her letter was read and accepted by the Church September 10, 1699.

"Thomas Hawley, his letter was read and accepted.

"Fairfield Church; Mary Beardsley, Jno's wife; her letter was read and accepted, July 26, 1702.

"Woodbury; Abegaill Tredwell's letter was read and accepted, Nov. 24, 1704.



"Concord; Sarah Whitacus, her letter was read and accepted June 17, 1705.

"Charlestown; Zachariah Ferris, sen^r, his letter was read and accepted, Sept. 9, 1705."

Besides the above there were added to this Church by profession, in full communion, during Mr. Chauncey's labors, to the end of the year 1714, the time of his death, 64 persons, making 97 in all.

During the same time there were 133 who united under the Halfway Covenant.

As to the meaning of this latter relation, Mr. Chauncey says, in heading the list with a prefatory statement:

"The Names of those who have renewed their Covenant, and personally subjected themselves to the government of Christ in his Church, and particularly in this Church, together with the time of their doing it."

This indicates that the relationship of the Halfway Covenant church members, was not regarded as of less seriousness or solemn obligation than that of full membership. The requirements in the Covenant itself were nearly the same as those of full communion; and it was not a trifling matter as it has so often been represented. Many persons at the present day are received to full membership in evangelical Churches without placing themselves under anything like the solemn promises that the Halfway Covenant imposed,¹³ in those days of strict religious principle.

¹³ The following is a copy of the Halfway Covenant which stands upon the records of the Church of Ripton at the date of 1773, the use of which was discontinued in 1817:

"You do now, before God and these witnesses, avouch the Lord Jehovah to be your covenant God and Father, viewing yourself under solemn bonds and obligations to be the Lord's by your baptismal vows. You do, so far as you know your own heart, make choice of Jesus Christ to be your only Saviour and Redeemer, and the Holy Ghost to be your Sanctifier, solemnly engaging to serve the Lord and him only, as he shall by his grace enable you; that you will deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts; that you will be careful to keep a conscience void of offence, so as to do honor to God and the religion you profess; that you will endeavor by strength from God to walk in all his commandments and ordinances blameless, desiring to put yourself under the watch and care of this Church, to be trained up in the school of Christ for his heavenly kingdom; promising also that you will give up your children to God in baptism, and to bring

The part which this Church had in the establishment of the Saybrook Platform is seen in the resolution and action recorded :

"July 27, 1708. Voted on the Sabbath that Leut. Bennet or Ensign Sherman or both, be the messengers of this Church at the meeting of the elders at Fairfield on the 28th of the same month by the appointment of the General Assembly at Hartford in May last, the end of which meeting of elders and messengers to Consider the matter of Church discipline."

When the result of the Saybrook convention had been confirmed by the General Assembly, Mr. Chauncey made the following entry in the Church book :

"February 16, 1708-9. I published the Confession of Faith, the Articles of union between the united Presbyterians and Congregational men in England, also read the regulations for Church discipline agreed upon by said Colony, and confirmed by authority; None among the brethren objecting."¹⁴

*The Rev. Charles Chauncey*¹⁵ was the first pastor of the Stratfield Congregational Church. He was a son of the Rev. Israel Chauncey, of Stratford, and grandson of President Chauncey of Harvard College, and was born at Stratford, September 3, 1668. He was graduated at Harvard in 1686, and married at Pequonnock, June 29, 1692, Sarah, daughter of Major John Burr, and great-granddaughter of Mr. Jehu Burr, one of the original settlers of Fairfield.

Mr. Chauncey was made freeman in Fairfield, March 18,

them up in the fear of the Lord; and to attend upon all the ordinances of Christ as administered in this place; also that it is your full purpose to obey God in the ordinance of the Holy Supper as God shall give you light, and show you his will herein. And you covenant, and you promise, relying for help, strength and ability on the blood of the everlasting covenant, to perform all and every duty to the praise and glory of God."—*See Ecclesiastical Contributions*, 411.

¹⁴ This account of the action of this Church, as to the Saybrook platform, and the record of the meeting of the first Consociation of Fairfield County, printed on pages 310 to 313 of History of Old Stratford, in foot note, are taken from the Stratfield Church Record book.

¹⁵ See sermon by the Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, pub. 1876.

168 $\frac{9}{10}$, which indicates his residence there either as a school teacher—which is probable—or serving as a minister under his father in lectures on week day evenings. It is evident that he served as a preacher, soon after, from the fact that in 1692, the town of Fairfield gave him land to descend to his heirs “if he shall die in the work of his ministry at Poquonnock.”

The privileges of a society were granted in 1691, and the Church was organized and Mr. Chauncey ordained, as seen above, June 13, 1695.

On the corner of Major Burr’s farm, in what has since been known as Cooke’s Lane, a house was built, and in it, in 1693, Mr. Chauncey and his wife took up their abode, and he commenced his regular ministerial labors.

In 1697, his wife Sarah died, and he married 2d, Sarah, daughter of Henry Wolcott, of Windsor, March 16, 1698. She died Jan. 5, 1702, and he married, 3d, Elizabeth Sherwood, March 14, 1710.

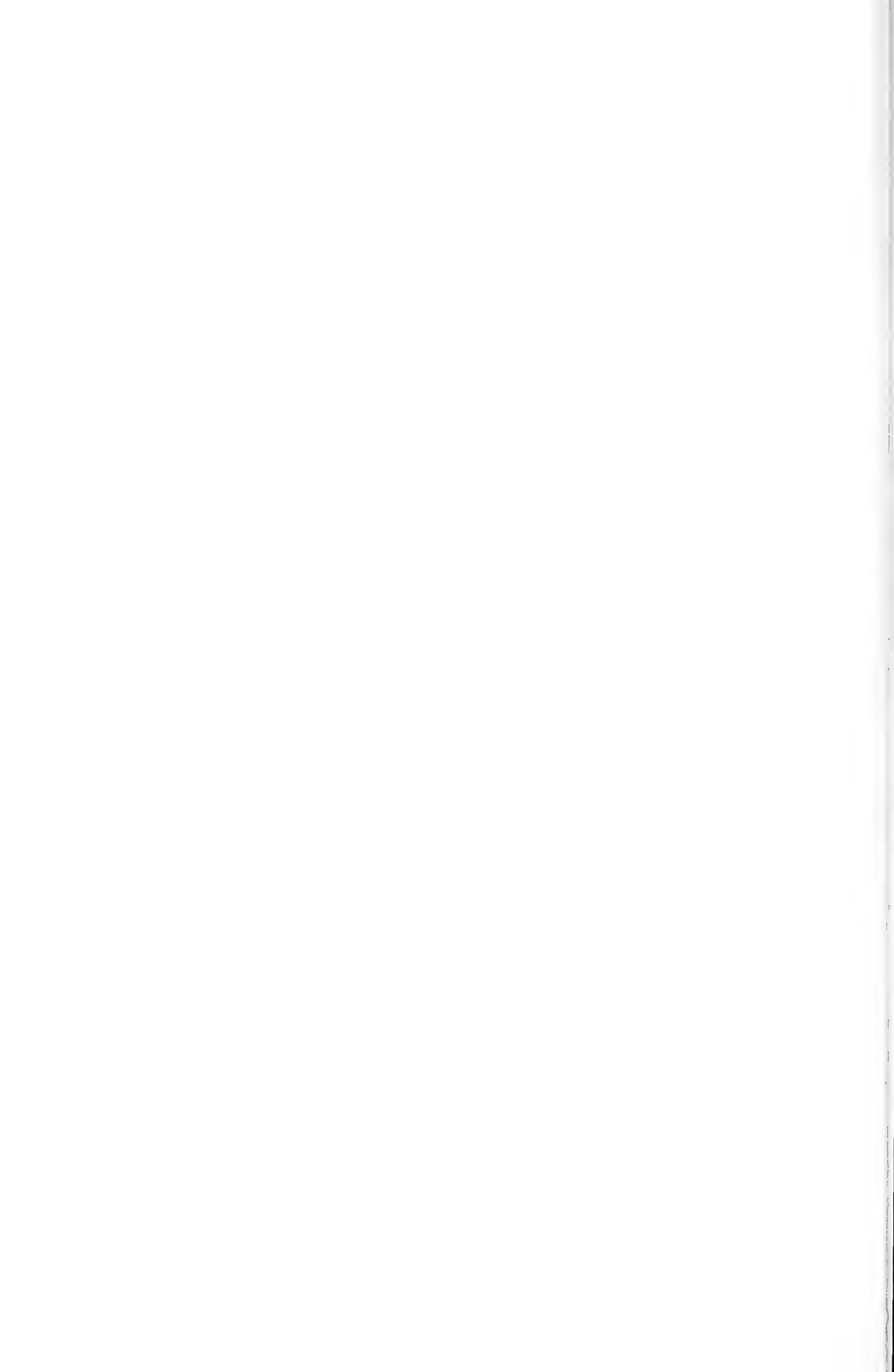
Mr. Chauncey was a member of the Council at Saybrook, and one of the founders of the Fairfield Consociation. Under his ministry both the church and the settlement steadily increased in numbers. His salary was at first £60 per annum, payable in produce at market rates, but afterwards it was increased to £80. He had, independently of his support, property in Stratford and in England, and left an estate valued at £743.

Mr. Chauncey died December 31, 1714, leaving a widow and several children.

The first Deacon of Mr. Chauncey’s Church was David Sherman, a large farmer, and one of the first settlers in Pequonnock. He was born in Stratford in 1665; was a man of good abilities, gifted in prayer, and much esteemed. In the absence of the minister he took the lead of religious services.

The Second Meeting-house in Stratfield.

Mr. Samuel Cooke commenced preaching for this people soon after July 11, 1715, and was ordained pastor February 14, 1715–16.



In December, 1715, the Society proceeded to the election of officers in which they called their most prominent officers "Selectmen," it being probable that they intended by that term simply the society's committee. They also voted, "that the drum shall bee beaten round the meeting house on Sabbath days;" and Richard Hubbell, Thomas Hawley, James Seeley, were chosen a committee to consult some carpenters about the enlargement of the meeting-house.

In July, 1716, further action was taken: "Voted, that they will inlarge and repair the meeting-house;" and a large committee was appointed to have the work done as soon as convenient, at the charge of the society."

In the progress of events, the work being delayed, another plan seems to have come under discussion, and probably was brought up at the next annual meeting, which meeting was adjourned several days, and when they came together in December, 1716, they voted, "that the place for the setting of the new meeting-house, if they shall afterward agree to build one, shall be near the corner of Joseph Trowbridge's orchard, late deceased, on the norwest side of the road between that and the widow Sharman's, deceased. Also voted at the same time, that they will build a new meeting-house, of these following dimensions: twenty-four feet between joints; forty-eight feet long; thirty-eight feet wide and a long roof. Major John Burr, Capt. David Sharman, Left. Richard Hubbell, Jr., Samuel Sherwood, Mr. Benjamin Fayerweather, were chosen a committee to build the above said house, on the charge of the abovesaid inhabitants; and what the major part of the committee agree to, shall be binding, not exceeding four hundred and fifty pounds, besides the charge of raising said house."

At another meeting, on December 31, 1716, they "granted by a major vote a Rate of one hundred pounds money to be raised on them according to their lists the last year, to be laid out towards the building of the new meeting-house."

In March, 171 $\frac{6}{7}$ the following request was received by the meeting of the society: "Your petitioner requests your favour so far as to grant me the liberty of making a pew for my wife and children at my own charge in the new meeting-

house, on the women's side up by the pulpit. Pray be so kind as to gratify me in this instance, both with respect to the thing itself and the situation of it. I remain your s. in all things I may. SAM^{LL} COOKE.

Passed in the affirmative at the abovesaid meeting."

"May 23^d, 1717, then voted and agreed that the committee shall hire men to raise the meeting-house and give them 3^s per day, they finding themselves."



STRATFIELD SECOND MEETING-HOUSE ERECTED IN 1717.

On December 30, 1717, they proceeded to make the rules for seating the meeting-house: "Voted that the meeting-house shall be seated by dignity, age, and estate by the present list; and also that David Sharman, Richard Hubbell, John Odell, Samuel Sherwood and John Burr be a committee to seat the meeting-house, and have power to seat from time to time as they see occasion.

"At a meeting of the society, March 7, 171⁷/₈, then voted that Major John Burr sit with his family in the pew that he

has built in the meetinghouse during the pleasure of the society."

In 1718, an appropriation of sixteen pound and six shillings was made by the society for building a gallery in the meeting-house, and Capt. David Sherman, Thomas Hawley, and Samuel Gregory, were appointed the committee to build it.

This meeting-house was considerably altered, as shown by the vote, December 17, 1765: "Liberty was granted to the following persons, each, to build a pew at the east end of the meetinghouse where the short seats are, they building at their own cost and paying the several sums affixed to each of their names, to the treasurer of this society in three months from this time; for them and to be for their benefit during their pleasure to sit in:

Nehemiah Smith Odell,	13 ^s 2 ^d	Seth Gregory,	13 ^s 2 ^d
Hezekiah Hubbell,	12 ^s 1 ^d	Benjamin Hubbell, Jr.,	12 ^s 6 ^d
Edward Rowland,	13 ^s 3 ^d	Jabez Hubbell,	12 ^s 2 ^d
Wolcott Hawley,	13 ^s 0 ^d	Gideon Hubbell,	12 ^s 1 ^d
Aaron Hawley,	12 ^s 8 ^d	Thomas Hawley,	12 ^s 0 ^d
Isaac Hunt,	13 ^s 1 ^d	Elnathan Sherman,	11 ^s 4 ^d

"December 20, 1769. Voted that the society are willing to build a steeple at the west end of the Presbyterian meeting house."

The committee to do the work consisted of "John Burr, Esq., Lieut. Benjamin Fayerweather, Lieut. Abel Seelye, Mr. Stephen Starling, and Mr. Benjamin Wheeler," and they were to do the work by subscription.

The subscription, however, was not sufficient to complete the work, for on September 19, 1770, the society voted that they were "willing to tax themselves to finish the steeple;" but changing their minds somewhat, they voted to make further efforts with the subscription, and it is probable that it was finished without a tax.

The steeple was not finished, when on the 28th of July, 1771, it was struck with lightning while the people were worshipping in the house, but was not greatly injured, although two men, John Burr, Esq., and Mr. David Sherman, being in

the house at worship, were killed. No other persons were seriously injured by the shock.

On August 5th, 1771, they voted to repair and finish the steeple; and the next April they voted "that there may be an iron rod put up at the steeple by subscription."

Another improvement was secured by the following society act: "Mar. 8, 1774. Voted that they will have a bell; also that the society will get a bell by subscription, and Joseph Strong, Gideon Hubbell, and Edward Boroughs shall be the committee to get the bell."

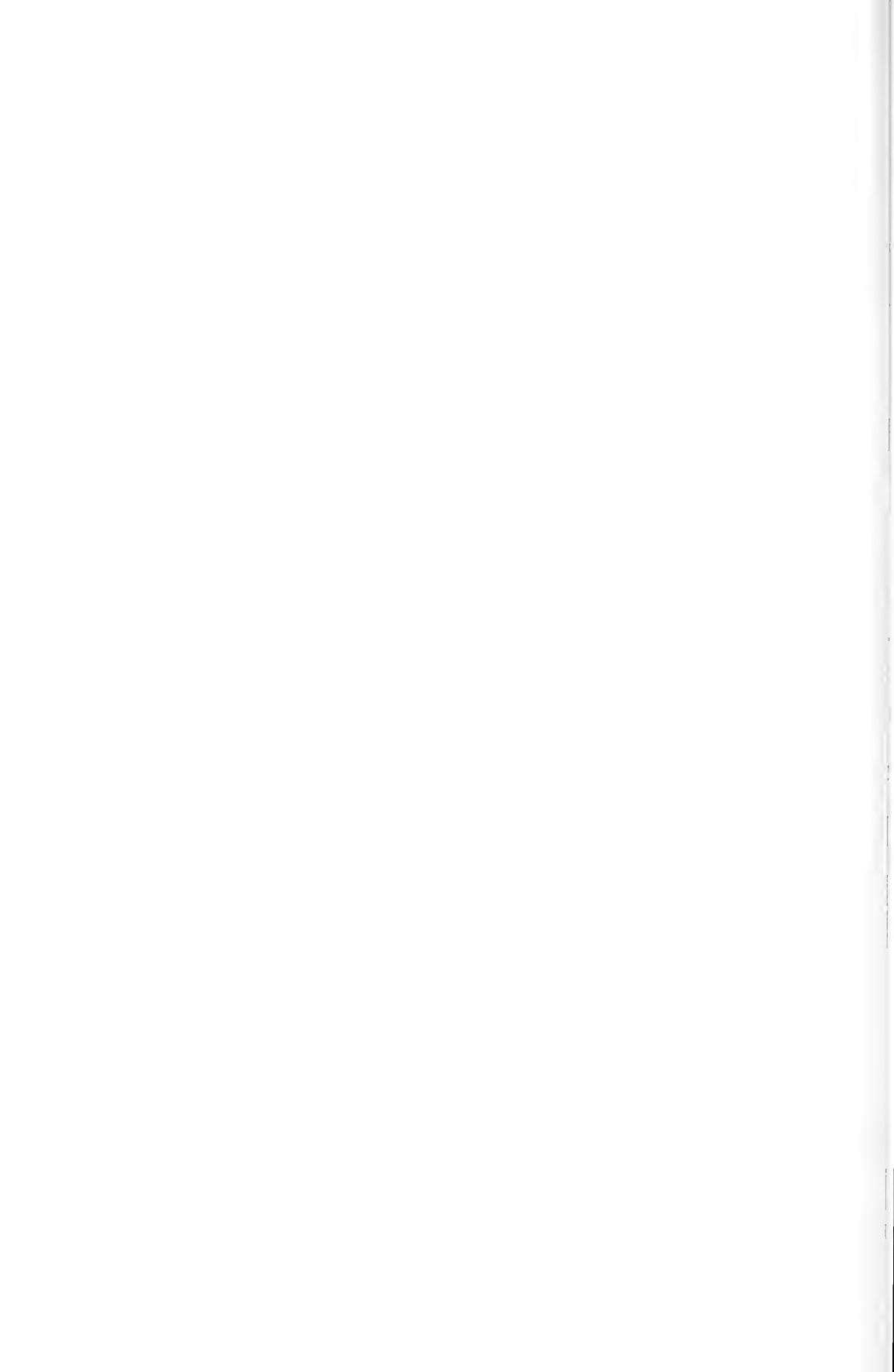
"September 12, 1774. Voted that y^e Society are willing to have the bell ringed at y^e usual time on Sabbath days, and other days at 12 of y^e clock in y^e day and at 9 o'clock at night, and also on lecture day; and whereas Mr. Wolcott Hawley offers to ring y^e Bell at y^e rate of £4 10^s by y^e year for y^e first three months, it was agreed to by y^e meeting."

There seems to have been some failure in the bell, for in November the society voted that they were "willing to run the bell over again and pay for it by subscription." This was probably done, since they continued afterwards to appoint a person to ring the bell from year to year.

Rev. Samuel Cooke,¹⁶ son of Thomas Cooke, Jr., and Sarah (Mason) Cook, of Guilford, Conn., was born in Guilford, November 22, 1687. His father died suddenly in 1701, before the son entered college, and the General Court granted, in May, 1703, a petition from the boy and his guardian (John Parmelee) for the sale of a house and lot to gain funds to carry out "the great desire of Thomas Cooke, deceased, to bring up this his son in learning." He graduated at Yale College in 1705.

He perhaps studied divinity immediately after graduation. In January, 1707, he became the rector of the Hopkins Grammar School in New Haven, and held that position at a salary of £60 a year, also occasionally preaching, until the close of the year 1715. He was also a deputy to the General Assembly from New Haven, for the six sessions from October,

¹⁶ This sketch is taken from "Biographical Sketches of the Graduates of Yale College," by F. B. Dexter, M.A.



1712, to May, 1715, serving as Clerk of the House for the last five. He married, November 30, 1708, Anne, only daughter of John Trowbridge, of New Haven, and granddaughter of Governor Leete, of Guilford.

In 1714, the Church in Stratfield lost by death its first pastor, the Rev. Charles Chauncey; and on June 16, 1715, a call was extended to Mr. Cooke to become his successor. The church in New Haven was also pastorless, owing to the death of the Rev. James Pierpont; and on July 1, 1715, this society met "to nominate a man to carry on the work of the ministry on probation." Mr. Cooke was put in nomination, and the place was probably more attractive to him than was Stratfield; but the vote stood 86 for Mr. Joseph Noyes to 45 for Mr. Cooke.

Accordingly, the call to Stratfield was accepted July 11, and Mr. Cooke appears to have begun his ministry there at once, though fulfilling his engagement with the New Haven Grammar School, until the end of the year 1715. His ordination is said to have taken place February 14, 1715-16. The salary was £100 a year, with firewood.¹⁷

He retained this pastorate until his death, December 2, 1747, at the age of 60. His latter years were troubled by an alleged backwardness on the part of his people to make good the salary promised him; and after his death his executors brought suit for the sum of £3000 arrears due his estate.¹⁸

In 1717, at the very beginning of his ministry, a new meeting-house was erected, which was used until the present century. In the events which followed the great revival of 1740, Mr. Cooke was a zealous advocate of what were known

¹⁷ *Specimen of Mr. Cooke's Receipts.*

"Stratfield, July y^e 14, 1716. Received of Henry Wakely and Sam^{ll} Wells, Jn^r, Collectors of the Minister's Rate or accepted as Received the sum of one hundred pounds six shillings and fore pence as money in full of the Rate that by agreement was to have been paid me on or Before the first day of March last passed and accordingly acquit the Society of Stratfield of one full years Rate and one myself indebted to the s^d Society y^e sum of six shillings and fore pence.

Witness my hand,

SAM^{ll} COOKE.

¹⁸ A considerable part of this sum, probably, grew out of claims, in consequence of the depreciation of the currency.



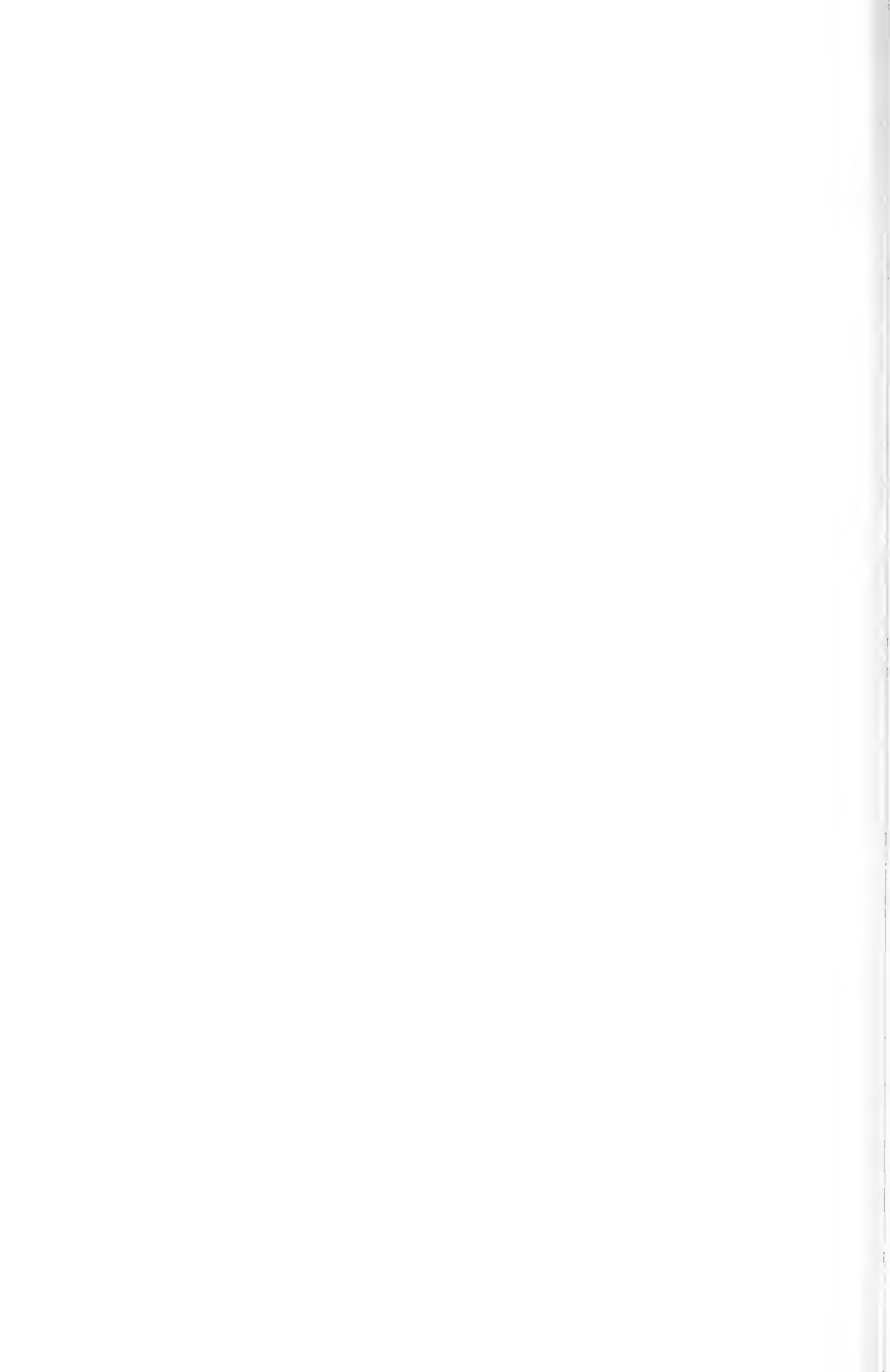
as "New Light" measures; and particularly, in May, 1742, he took an active part in the organization of a new church in New Haven. He had been since September, 1732, one of the Trustees of Yale College, but the predominant "Old Light" convictions of the other trustees led finally to the following vote, found in the original records of the Corporation for September, 1745: "Whereas, this board have at this and former meetings signified to Mr. Cook their dissatisfaction with sundry things in his conduct, and he could not conveniently tarry to make any distinct answer thereunto at this time by reason of sickness in his family, Voted, that the President, with the rest of the standing Committee of this Board be desired to signifie to Mr. Cooke the reasons of their dissatisfaction in writing and desire his answer thereto."

It is but fair to read between the lines, and bearing in mind that this was the first meeting convened after the new charter of 1745 had passed the legislature, which gave power (not in the former charter) to six of the Trustees to remove a Trustee from his place, we may conclude that the writing sent to Mr. Cooke forced upon him the resignation of his trusteeship, which was announced to the Corporation at their next meeting, in April, 1746.

The New Haven County Association of Ministers had previously, September 25, 1744, sent a letter to Mr. Cooke signifying their uneasiness with, and offense at the proceedings of said Mr. Cooke, etc., in pretendedly gathering a Church among the Separatists at New Haven in opposition to the pastor and 1st church there. His letter in reply was voted "not satisfactory," September 24, 1745.

On the other hand the Fairfield Eastern Association of Ministers, in which Mr. Cooke was a leading member, passed, April 15, 1746, a series of resolutions, evidently bearing reference to his citation before the Trustees, and to this effect: in view of the Assembly's having granted "a new College Charter with large privileges and a new form of government, and particularly by investing the newly incorporated body with powers of taking away as well as giving College honors, as the said Corporation see just cause; Therefore,

"1. Voted and Agreed, That no person or future mem-



ber of this Association shall be looked upon by us obliged to answer before sd. authority for any such fact or facts as were committed by such member before sd. Corporation's Investiture with such new authority.

"2. Voted and Agreed that no member of this Association is obliged to answer to sd. Corporation for any of their Doctrines or Conduct as ministers of the gospel. . . ."

"He was," says his present successor, "a man whose personal dignity was long remembered in the parish, and was held in the highest respect—somewhat in fear. He was particularly careful in his personal appearance. This comprised a heavy curled wig, black coat and small clothes, shoes with silver buckles, and over all a black gown or cloak."

His first wife was born July 22, 1688, and died August 11, 1721; and he married, May 3, 1722, Esther, daughter of Nathaniel Burr, and widow of John Sloss, both of Fairfield; she died in less than a year. He married, thirdly, Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Platt, of Norwalk, Conn., born December 2, 1701, and died May 16, 1732, "of an apoplexy;" and fourthly, Aug. 6, 1733, Abigail, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Russell, of Branford, and widow of the Rev. Joseph Moss, of Derby, Conn., who survived him. His children were, three sons and four daughters by his first wife, and three sons by his third wife. Three of his sons, Samuel, William, and Joseph Platt, graduated at Yale College in 1730, 1747, and 1750, respectively. One of his daughters married the Rev. Robert Silliman.

The inventory of his estate amounted to £2,787; it included 61 books and 173 pamphlets.

He published two sermons:

1. A sermon preached at the funeral of Rev. John Davenport, of Stamford, published in 1731.

2. A sermon preached before the Eastern Association of Fairfield County, on a publick lecture in Danbury, July 29, 1741.

This sermon was introduced into a spirited controversy between Jonathan Dickinson and Samuel Johnson. Johnson published, in 1744, "A Letter from Aristocles Authades, concerning the Sovereignty and Promises of God," and Dickinson

son, in replying, in 1746, with "A Vindication of God's Sovereign free Grace," interpreted Johnson's imagined antagonist (Authades) as Mr. Cooke, whose views (as printed in his sermon) he certainly seemed to be controverting; Johnson, however, in "A Letter to Mr. Jonathan Dickinson," disclaimed the intention of a precise reference to Cooke's sermon.

Besides these sermons should be mentioned:

3. "Invitations to the Rev. Mr. Whitefield from the Eastern Consociation of the County of Fairfield. With a Letter from the Rev. Mr. Samuel Cooke, of Stratfield, to a Minister in Boston, Concerning the former success of Mr. Whitefield's Ministry there."

This pamphlet contains a letter by Mr. Cooke to one of the Boston ministers, dated May 15, 1745. This letter is an urgent appeal that Mr. Whitefield may come and preach in the churches of Fairfield County; and to show the spirit of some of these churches he prefixes a vote of the Consociation at a meeting held in Stratfield, October 7, 1740, of which he was Moderator and Scribe, inviting Whitefield.

This publication was quite possibly an additional motive for the action taken in September, 1745, by the College Trustees.

History of the Porter Property.¹⁹

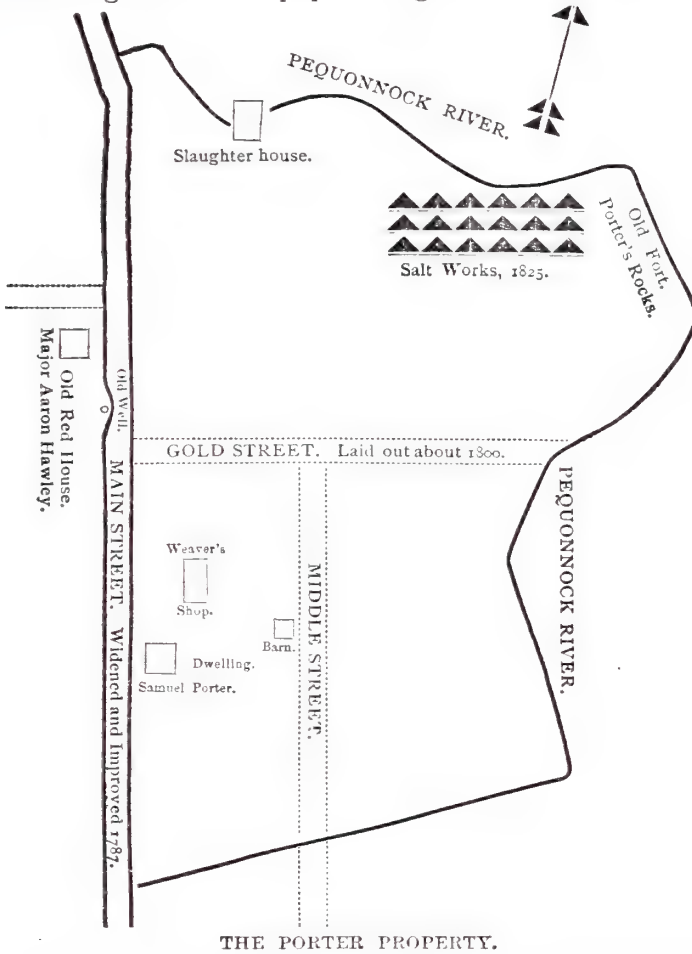
Much interesting history is connected with the premises of No. 532 Main street and the house recently demolished to make room for a block of stores. The territory of nearly seven acres, on the east side of Main street from a point at or near Golden Hill street to Congress street, bounded easterly by the harbor, was purchased by Samuel Porter, sen.,²⁰ from Zachariah Hawley, Feb. 5, 1759. A plot of the premises

¹⁹ Manuscript of Dea. R. B. Lacey, written for this work.

²⁰ *A portion of the old Samuel Porter deed.*

To all persons . . . Greeting. Know ye that I, Zakry Hawley, of Stratford and County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut in New England. For the Consideration of One Hundred and two pounds York money by me in hand received to my full satisfaction of Samuel Porter of Stratford, and County and Colony aforesaid, do give grant bargain sell to his heirs and assigns forever my

copied from the original, made by Wolcott Hawley, surveyor, found among the Porter papers, is given with this record.



THE PORTER PROPERTY.

Dwelling house and Land whereon it stands on Golden Hill, called y^e old fort, and is Bounded South on Deacon Joseph Booth's Land Easterly and Northerly on ye creek and West on highway—the sd house and Land with all the apperтенances thereunto belonging for him the said Samuel Porter forever. To have and to hold . . . forever.

Witness my Hand and Seal the 5th day of Feb. in the 32^d year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the second of Great Britain. . . . King, Annoque Domini, 1759.

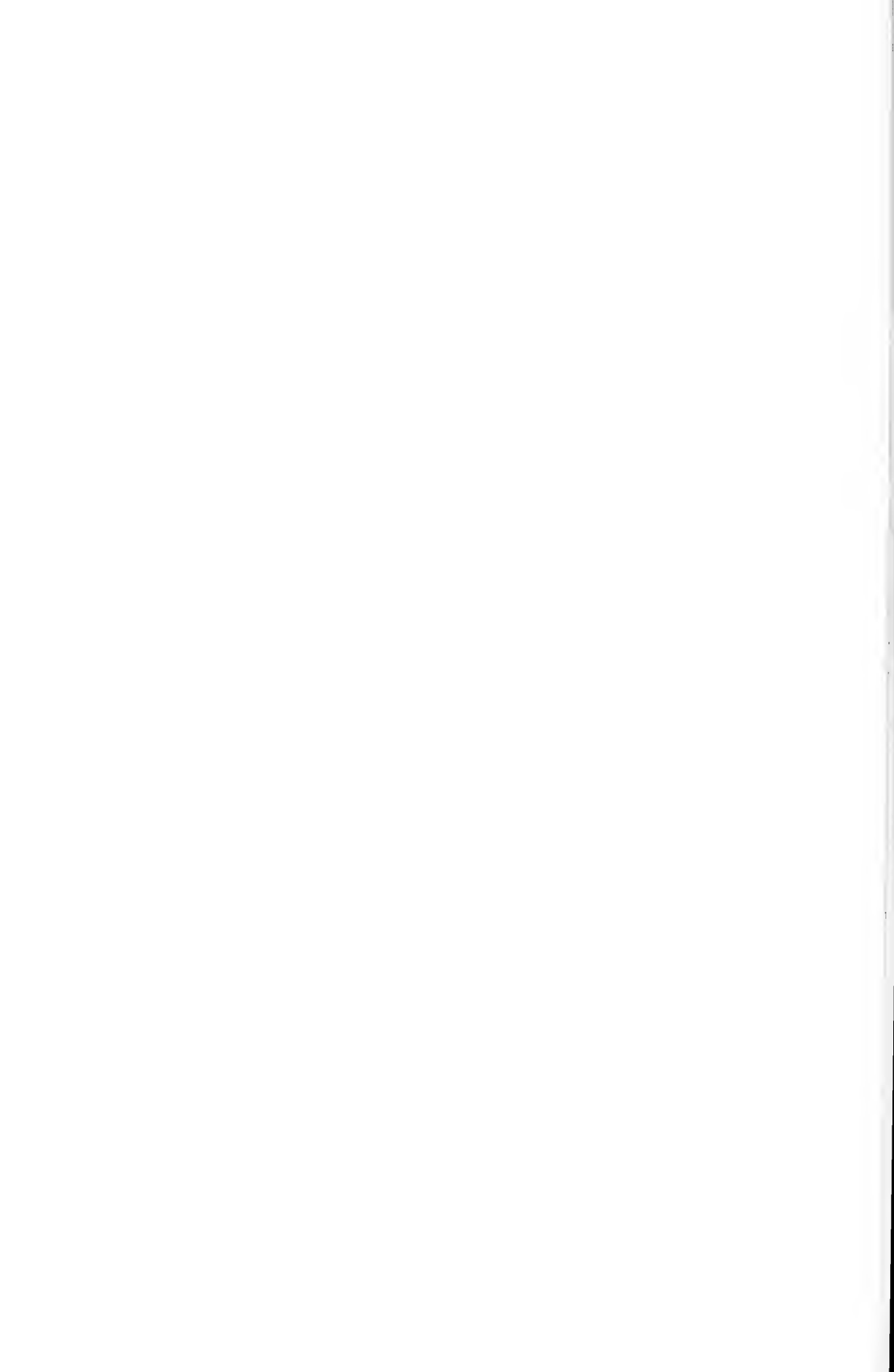
ZACHARIAH HAWLEY."

Signed and sealed in presence of
Theophilus Nichols.
Joseph Nichols.

There was a dwelling house on the plot in 1759, but not the one which has just been taken down. The latter was probably erected by Samuel Porter, Sen., soon after the close of the Revolutionary war, and, with the "Old Red House" which stood on the west side of the highway,—Main street—the site of the present wooden block of Mr. Nathaniel Wheeler, was among the very first residences of a good class erected upon the Newfield, as Bridgeport was then called. James and Zachariah Hawley were sons of Gideon, and third in descent from the original Joseph Hawley, of Stratford, through first, Ephraim and Sarah Wells, and second, Gideon and Ann Bennett. They were pioneers here. The Hawley family were large land owners. James seems to have settled on the west side of the highway. His son, Deacon Elijah, was a house carpenter, and probably built and occupied the old red house. Isaac Sherman says of him: "He removed to the West very early, and died in Ohio in 1825, aged 84 years. He had a son by the name of Jesse, who was born in the old red house. This Jesse removed to the state of New York in early life and died there in 1843, at the age of 70 years. It is said that he was the projector of the Erie canal by communicating his ideas of such an enterprise to Governor DeWitt Clinton.

Major Aaron Hawley, a brother of Deacon Elijah, appears to have been the owner of the old red house in 1787, at which period the "upright highway"—Main street—was widened and the site of the famous well in front, which stood its width in the street, was excepted and liberty was given to fence around it. The same well exists to-day covered by the sidewalk stone. Zachariah Hawley married Bethia Austin of Suffield, Ct., and probably removed to Massachusetts, for none of his descendants appear in this part of Connecticut.

Samuel Porter, sen., died September 15, 1795. The Porter purchase remained intact as field land during his life, except at the south end, where he gave a house lot as an advancement to his daughter Mary, who married Lewis Sturges. The old house, now a portion of the Elisha Hubbell property at the northeast corner of Main and Golden Hill streets, was the residence of Isaac Sturges, son of Lewis. His son Joseph



P. Sturges—commonly called Porter Sturges—had his residence a little way south. The original house is standing but it has a brick front and has been raised an additional story. The main building is occupied by Cohen (millinery) and Bain (a tea and coffee store.) It was a double house with hall-way and kitchen wings both on the north and south. Porter Sturges occupied the south house, and Henry Coty and the late Thomas Hutchins successively occupied the north part for many years.

There was a vacant lot between the two Sturges houses through which Golden Hill street was extended in 1847, from Main street easterly, leaving a strip of land on the south side of the street, which was leased by the city and an engine house, for the original No. 5 hand engine, was erected thereon. The same building is now occupied as a bakery by Mr. A. Brennan.

The survey from which the accompanying diagram is taken was made by Wolcott Hawley, a brother of Major Aaron and Deacon Elijah Hawley, October 20, 1795, to aid the distribution of the estate of Samuel Porter, Sen. The original has the dotted lines showing the portions set out to the two heirs, Samuel Porter, Jr., who had a double portion and his sister, Mary Sturges.

Lewis and Isaac Sturges with their families went West about 1820, and afterwards settled in Wisconsin. Rev. Albert Sturges, the veteran missionary of the American Board in Micronesia, is of this family.

They sold their interest in the remnant of this property on the death of Samuel Porter, Jr., who died without children, September 9, 1842.

The Rev. Thomas B. Sturges, of Greenfield Hill, Conn., is the only son and heir of Joseph P. Sturges. He inherited the undivided half of the old Porter house, lot No. 532, Main street, and came into possession of it on the death of the widow of Samuel Porter, Jr., April 12, 1867.

Recently, there has been a division by which he has acquired sole ownership of the entire Main street front, and is putting it to use by erecting the one-story block of stores now being built.

This plot of land is referred to in the deed, as being located on Golden Hill, showing that the name was applied to the land extending to the Pequonnock river. It was also called "Y^e Old Fort." Referring to the diagram on the right hand side, bordering on the creek at the extreme point, the position of the fort may be seen. These are the only allusions to a fort here, now known, and its previous existence must have been traditionary in 1795. It could hardly have been built by the English settlers, or there would have been some record of it, or in connection with its erection and use. Therefore it must have been an Indian fortification.

The location was a rocky promontory jutting out into the creek from a beautiful plateau which extended back to the highway. Later, for three-quarters of a century it was universally known as Porter's Rocks. It retained nearly its pristine beauty until 1838, and was a favorite resort for sports and bathing, by the young men and boys of the period, a few of whom survive to this day. There was the round rock and the flat rock; both extending out so as to afford at their base considerable depth of water at high tide; the latter was at the extreme point and was a favorite place for fishing, especially for frost fish in their season. A short distance from the point on the northern bank was the round rock, from which the bathers took their leap headforemost into the briny waters. The bank here was skirted with cedars, which afforded a good cover for this sport.

Just before the present century, a new spirit of enterprise was awakened here. Previous to the Revolutionary War the parish of Stratfield was a quiet farming community. Nothing had been done, specially, to develop the place. Long Island Sound had indeed become a highway of commerce. The frequent disturbances, at that period in the political atmosphere of the Old World, were soon felt here, and the infant settlements, unprotected as they were, and their trading vessels especially, were a tempting and easy prey to the privateers, which swarmed on the American coast.

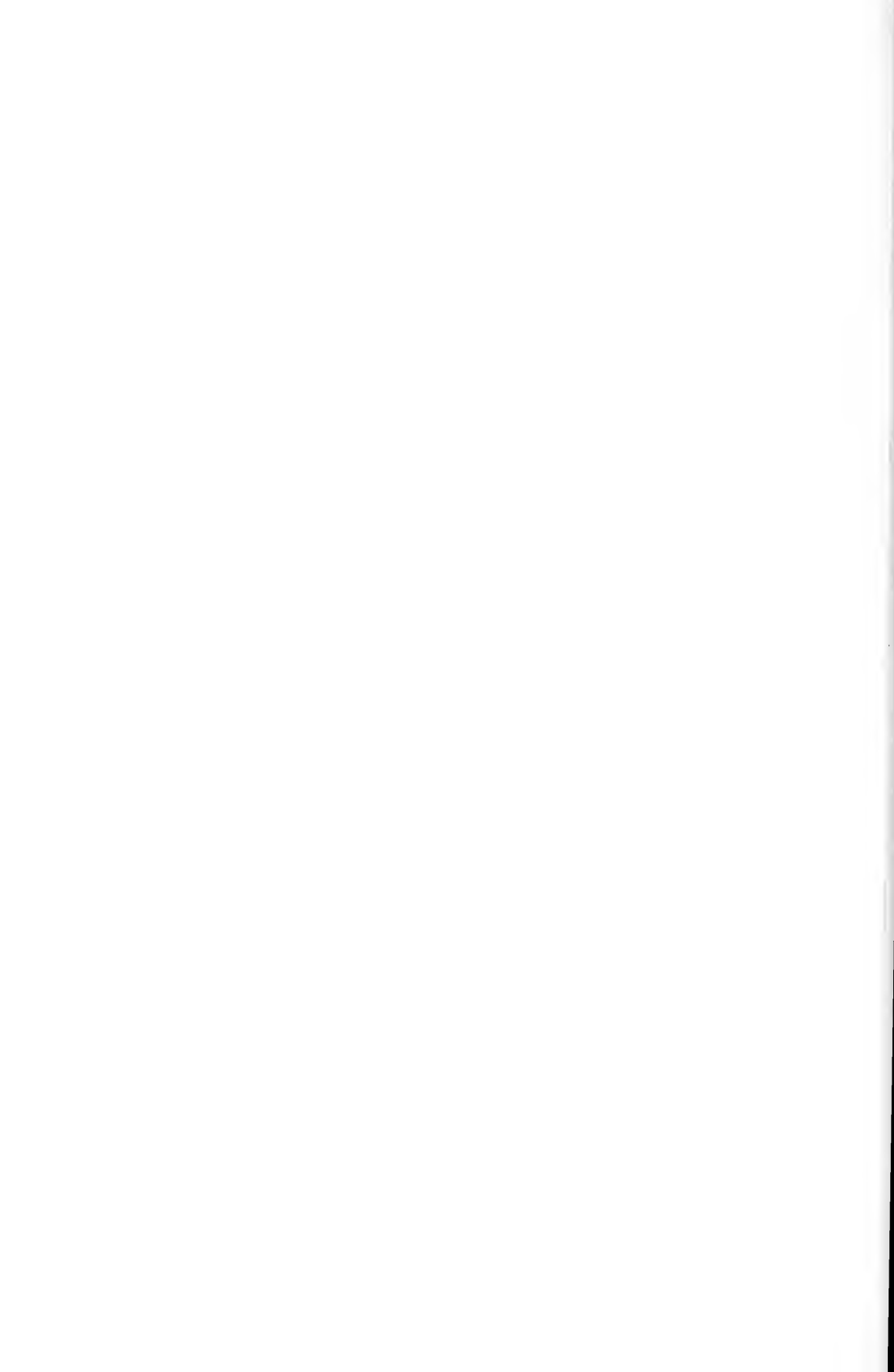
The harbors and settlements lying close upon the Sound were most exposed. Pequonnock river, however, was excep-



tionally safe. There was fully as much depth of water above the neck, now the site of Berkshire bridge, as on the bar outside, and plenty of space also. The wooded bluffs on the shore, some of them jutting out into bold promontories, shut out this portion from the open harbor and Sound, affording a safe retreat, almost a hiding place. Under the then existing state of things it is no wonder commerce was early developed at this place. Theophilus Nichols and his son Philip had their store and wharf at the extreme head of navigation near what is now known as the Plumb place. They built and sailed vessels from there, as did also Capt. Stephen Burroughs, Sen. The shore opposite the old red brick house on North avenue was long known and designated the Shipyard. The commercial and trading interests to this period with Boston and New York were not large, yet were sufficient to foster a spirit of enterprise and educate and prepare the more ambitious young men to improve their opportunities.

The establishment of our national independence not only infused new life, but brought greater security to our coast and coasting trade. The surrounding country naturally centering here was rich in agricultural resources. Boston, New York, the Southern Atlantic States and the West Indies, were the markets. Water street had been laid out from the present Fairfield avenue, three rods wide to Welles' Tongue. Wharves and stores began to be built upon it. Men with their families, who had lived from one to two miles in the interior, settled on the shore and entered vigorously into trade and commerce. Among these may be mentioned the families of Nichols, Hawley, Hubbell, Sherman, Burroughs, Sterlings and Summers. The advantages of the location began to be appreciated and an enterprising element came into the place, from the surrounding towns and from a greater distance. Isaac Sherman mentioned by name, in 1857, not less than forty men who came from abroad and settled here between the years 1790 and 1806, who became prominent as successful business men.

The names of these persons with the date when they came, and their business occupations, are here given; the stars indicating those whose descendants are known, still to remain in the city.



- 1786, Daniel Young, merchant, from Norwich, Conn.
1790, Salmon Hubbell, merchant, from Wilton, Conn.
1790, Capt. Abraham Hubbell, merchant, from Wilton, Conn.
1792, John S. Cannon, merchant and banker, from Norwalk, Conn.
1792, Robert and Prosper Wetmore, merchants, from Stratford, Conn.
1792, David and John DeForest, merchants, from New Haven, Conn.
1792, Thomas Gouge, hatter, from New York State.
1793, Reuben Tweedy,* hatter, from Danbury, Conn.
1793, Nathaniel Wade,* watchmaker and merchant from Norwich, Conn.
1794, Capt. Thaddeus Hubbell, seaman, from Wilton, Conn.
1794, Isaac Hinman,* merchant, from Trumbull, Conn.
1794, Thaddeus Benedict, attorney, from Reading, Conn.
1794, Lambert Lockwood, merchant, from Wilton, Conn.
1794, Hull and Lyon, merchants, successors to David and John DeForest.
1794, Capt. Jonathan Baker,* seaman, from an eastern town.
1794, Richard Hyde,* merchant, from Norwich, Conn.
1794, Samuel Burr, merchant, from Fairfield, Conn.
1796-1803, Ezra Gregory,* inn keeper, from Wilton, Conn.

[The following came between the years 1796 and 1803.]

- Ephraim Middlebrook,* joiner, from Trumbull, Conn.
Stephen Hull,* blacksmith, from Wilton, Conn.
Dea. William DeForest,* merchant, from Weston (now Easton), Conn.
Robert Linus,* packer, from Stratford, Conn.
Capt. John Brooks,* seaman, from Stratford, Conn.
Capt. Joseph Sterling Edwards, seaman, from Trumbull, Conn.
Sylvanus Sterling, merchant, from Trumbull, Conn.
Jesse Sterling,* merchant, from Trumbull, Conn.
Capt. Ezekiel Hubbell, seaman, from Greenfield Hill, Conn.
William H. Peabody, cabinet maker, from Norwich, Conn.
Ira Peck,* merchant, from Brookfield, Conn.
Lemuel Hubbell, cabinet maker, from Stratford, Conn.



Benjamin Hall, attorney, from Weston (now Easton), Conn.
Joseph Backus, attorney, from Glastonbury, Conn.
Maj. Benjamin M. Woolsey, merchant, from Long Island,
N. Y.
1806, Smith Tweedy, hatter, from Danbury, Conn.
1806, Samuel Penney, merchant.
1806, Hezekiah Ripley, printer.
1806, Lazarus Beach, printer, from Redding, Conn.
1806, Stiles Nichols,* printer, from Danbury, Conn.
1806, James E. Beach,* physician, from New Haven, Conn.
1803, Thomas Woodward, merchant.
1805, Josiah Prindle, merchant, from Derby, Conn.
1805, Mordeca Prindle, merchant, from Derby, Conn.
1805, Joseph H. Prindle, merchant, from Derby, Conn.

In 1797-8, the first drawbridge across the harbor was chartered and built.

In 1800, the borough of Bridgeport—the first in the State and a pattern for others—was chartered, and as a commercial and manufacturing community, BRIDGEPORT commenced her career of enterprise and progress.

Several new streets had been laid out, which were now recognized and named; among them Gold street from Main to the harbor, two rods wide. Mr. Nathaniel Wade, a watchmaker by trade, from Norwich, Conn., afterward a merchant, bought land of Mr. Porter, and erected his house, the same is now standing on the southeast corner of Main and Gold streets. Philo and DeLuzern DeForest secured the northeast corner and erected the house now standing there, so long owned and occupied by Isaac Sherman, Esq., and now by his descendants. Capt. Joseph Sterling Edwards, from Trumbull, bought and built on the south side of Gold street, from Middle to Water street. His widow left this with other property, to her brother, Isaac Burroughs, Esq., which has served to swell the Pettengill estate, from which such munificent public benefactions are now being realized.

Mr. Jesse Sterling, also from Trumbull, a merchant, purchased the site on the north side of Gold street at the head of Water street, and erected the house more recently owned

and occupied by Mr. Abel Drew. The same was removed in 1870 for the extension of Water street. Later, on Main street, next north of Isaac Sherman, Captain Gershom E. Hubbell located. Next to him was Mr. George Smith, and last on the plot was Captain William Goodsell, who had his slaughter house on the bank of the creek in the rear of the dwellings.

Isaac Sherman sold a part of his Main street front to Capt. Joseph H. Hand from Long Island—the same property being now owned by Jacob Sutter, and occupied by Mr. C. P. Coe's wholesale and retail grocery.

A Weaver's Shop is seen on the diagram, standing northerly of the dwelling house of Samuel Porter, back from the highway. It was occupied by both Samuel Porter and his son of the same name, who were weavers by trade, and supplied the settlement with the elegant woolen bed coverlets,—specimens of which are still preserved in the old families, woolen cloth and blankets, damask and plain linen.

So far as appears, this building was the first exclusively devoted to the manufacturing of goods within the limits of Bridgeport, and is in very striking contrast with the splendid and extensive structures of the present day.

The Salt Works. For some reason, probably the scarcity of salt during and after the close of the second war with Great Britain, about the year 1818, it was deemed a wise measure to secure salt of home manufacture, and so prudent and sagacious man as the late Isaac Sherman was persuaded that it was safe to invest capital and labor in it. The beautiful plateau north of Gold street, the property of his brother-in-law, Samuel Porter, Jr., was selected as the site for the operations. The location of the evaporating vats is shown on the diagram. The salt water was pumped from the bay or creek into the vats, by means of a windmill stationed at or near the point. No statistics are extant as to the quantity or quality of the product, but merchantable salt was made.

One mistake as to location became apparent, that the water of the creek at this point was too much diluted with the fresh water of its tributaries, which with the increased



facilities for procuring the West India product, conspired to render the enterprise unprofitable. The Salt Works, as they were called, were mentioned in the will of Samuel Porter, Jr., written in 1828. The unused vats were admirably adapted to, and improved by the young people, for the game of hide and seek. They disappeared soon after the year 1830, as remembered by persons still living.

The Slaughter House is also represented on the diagram. Capt. William Goodsell, who early lived in the old yellow house which was removed from Main street in 1871 in order to open Congress street, is believed to have been the first to fit up and occupy a regular slaughter house here. It was a barn-like structure standing on the edge of the bluff and extending almost its whole size over the bank—which was well washed by each flood tide—the building being supported by substantial posts. Its site was included in the purchase of the late Benjamin Ray, who had much difficulty in getting the boundary lines established satisfactorily. In his numerous and vigorous talks about the matter, well remembered by many, very frequent allusions were made to “Capt. Goodsell’s slaughter house yard.”

It is interesting to note how the progress of the settlement moved back the slaughter houses. The next location was that of Gideon and Eli Thompson on the westerly side of North Washington avenue, not far from the present location of Mulloy’s lane, from 1833 to 1843.

From this the same parties removed to what is now the Thompson farm, a little south of the toll-gate on the Huntington turnpike, while Smith and Stratton, and their successors, and Captain Terry, located theirs on the Newtown turnpike about two miles out of town.

The heavy beef is now mostly dressed for this market in Chicago, Ill.; transported in refrigerator cars and distributed from refrigerator depots—two of them located on this same territory—to be dispensed in steaks and roasts from the refrigerators of the local markets.

Saddle Boxes were made also on this territory. The shipment to markets in the South, of large quantities of sad-

dles and harness, manufactured here from 1815 to 1860, required many strong boxes of special form and size. Up to 1849, these were almost exclusively made without machinery, by Porter Sturges, whose shop and lumber yard were on Middle street at the present corner of Golden Hill street, occupied now by the Naugatuck Valley Ice Company. His assistant when needed, was the late David Wheeler, who lived on Arch street, and later on the Newtown turnpike near Beach street.

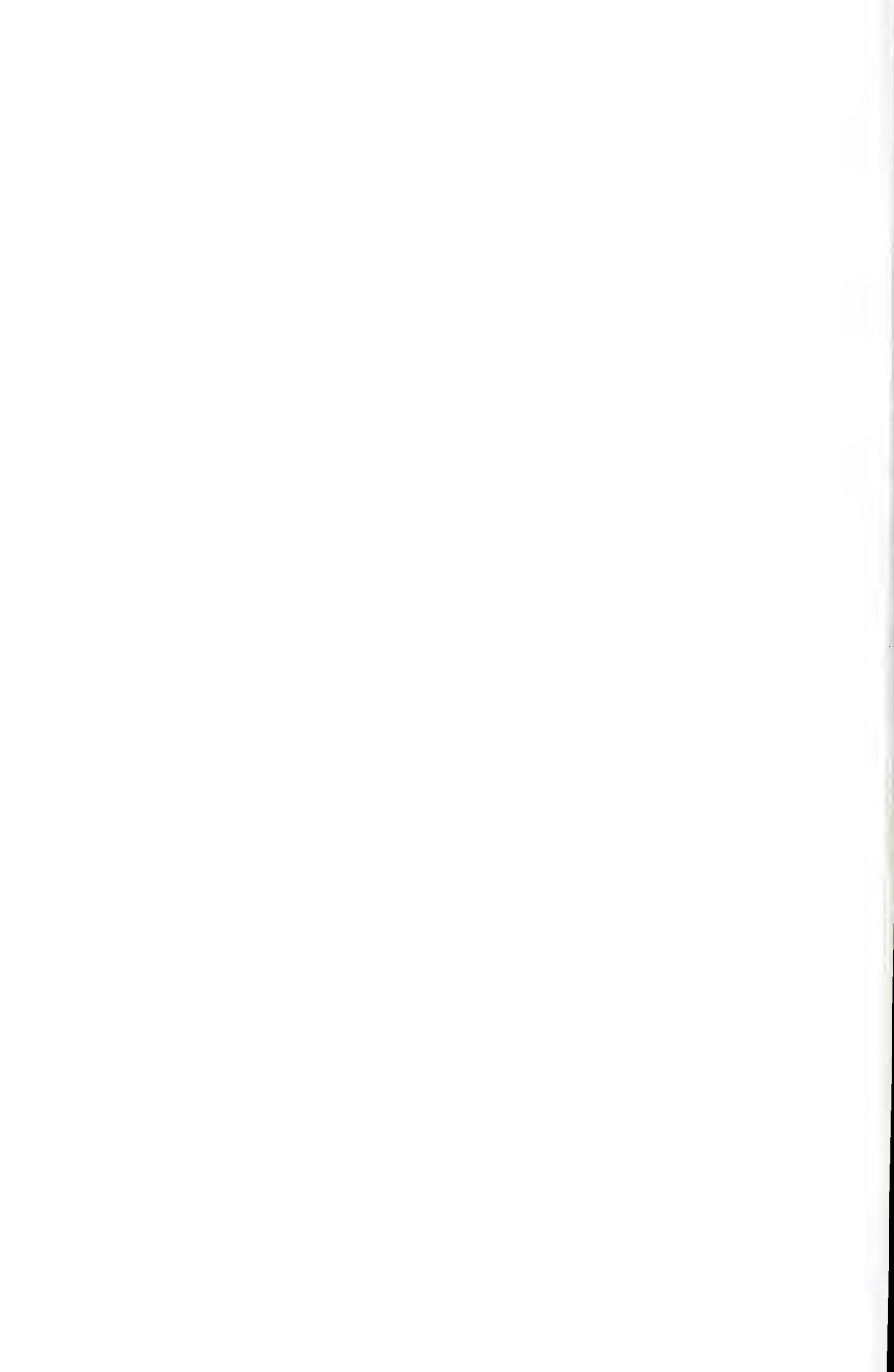
This work afforded reliable and steady employment for these men, and with the frugality for which they were both noted, laid the foundation of handsome estates for each one.

The increased quantity needed and the competition of machinery, diverted the source of supply to the shops of L. C. Shepard & Co., about 1850, then located at the site of the north end of the Atlantic Hotel, the Union House being a part; and later to Lyon & Curtis, on Simon's wharf.

Comb Making, as a business, was established and conducted here for a while, by Moss K. Botsford, from Newtown, who purchased of Jesse Sterling, the house on the bank on the north side of Gold street, at the head of Water street. This business was very prosperous from about 1830 to 1835. Bethel and Newtown were largely engaged in it. Some manufacturers were successful for a time, but the fashions were extremely changeable, and the business fitful, which led to many failures; and hence it continued here but a short time. Mr. Abel Drew, from Derby, was the next owner of the above-mentioned house.

Cooperage. The commerce of the place, especially the West India trade, and for a number of years the whaling business, required a great many casks, and made a lively business for the coopers. Mr. Drew's shop was on the south shore of the point, where he employed a number of men, and he, seeing, embraced his opportunity, and thus laid the foundation for his handsome estate.

The Housatonic Railroad was chartered in 1836, for a line from Bridgeport to the northern boundary of the state in the town of Canaan, Litchfield County. The company



was organized, capital subscribed, and right of way secured to New Milford in 1838. Commencing at a point near the west approach to the Bridgeport bridge—Fairfield avenue—it extended northerly across the mud flats and over this Porter property, making quite a deep cut across it. The company not only purchased the usual right of way over this property for main tracks, but secured the entire point east of its main line, graded it down, using the material towards filling the roadway across the adjacent mud flats, and then located their engine house, turn-tables and car-shop thereon. A wharf was constructed at the extreme point, and the Long Island skipper connected with Mr. Roswell Lewis' coal and wood yard, landed thereon the pine wood which was then used at this end of the line for fuel for the locomotives. Thus the beautiful bluff was invaded, and its glory departed before the march of modern utility and progress. The construction and opening of the railroad developed the need of a foundry and machine shops. This need was measurably supplied by the late David Wheeler of Park avenue, who was in 1843 joined by George and J. R. Young, and had their works in a wooden building on the same site as the present Bridgeport Iron Works, which is made land on the mud flats fronting this Porter property.

The First Center Bridge. When, in 1852, Hon. P. T. Barnum joined Gen. Wm. H. Noble for the development of East Bridgeport, they at once realized that they must have more direct and easier communication with the business portion of the city on the west side of the harbor. Hence they procured a charter for a bridge; the eastern terminus about identical with the present Center bridge, while the western end, spanning the Housatonic railroad track, landed upon the high bank of this Porter property, for which they made an appropriate purchase of Mrs. Ellen Porter, the widow of Samuel Porter, Jr., November 19, 1852. This was reached by a street which had been opened as a highway by Mr. Porter, and named by him Summer street, extending northerly from Gold street a little east of the line of Middle street extended. After the location of the bridge it was called Bridge street. By the kindness of General Noble the Historical society has

a picture of this bridge on its walls, painted in water colors, showing a condition of the surroundings now most thoroughly changed.

When the present Center bridge was constructed in 1869, the western terminus was changed to Congress street, crossing the railroad at grade. Middle street was soon after extended thereto in a direct line and Bridge street was discontinued. In November, 1864, the city purchased this bridge and appurtenances with the other bridges across the harbor, and in the adjustment of property interests affected by these changes, and the extension of Middle street, the city obtained the site of the present No. 5 engine house.

Previous to the extension of Congress street for the western terminus of the Center bridge, in 1869, the mud flats and low ground on the west side of the Housatonic railroad track from the Porter property to Lumber street, was flooded through a water way at the old mill located near the line of Lumber street and the face of the wharf at that point. The water was changed and purified each flood tide, but the gate in the water way retained enough to give at all times a depth of several feet in the southern portion near this property.

Previous to the introduction of the present water supply of the city, much dependence was placed upon the salt water of the harbor for extinguishing fires. This vicinity was practically shut off from the water front, especially at low tide, and to remedy this, Mrs. Ellen Porter deeded to the city an addition to the Bridge street highway, May 19, 1859, and opened a way to the water above described, where the city constructed a platform sufficient to accommodate one of the hand engines of that period and its company in actual service.

About 1846, the Housatonic Railroad Company removed their depot both for passengers and freight from near Fairfield avenue southerly, nearly to the present elevator. A few years afterwards, having filled and made solid ground of the mud flats still further south they put up there a round house, and other necessary shops and buildings. The old engine house and the long car house remained in their places on the Porter property many years; also a blacksmith business by several parties. The veteran blacksmith, Mr. Joseph C. Bar-

num, had his shop there for many years until his decease, February 25, 1883, aged 80 years.

The Bridgeport Boiler Works commenced operations in 1869, on this (Porter's) point, utilizing some of the old buildings, and erecting others. This company embraced the following names: Humphrey, Watson, Farrel, and Chatfield.

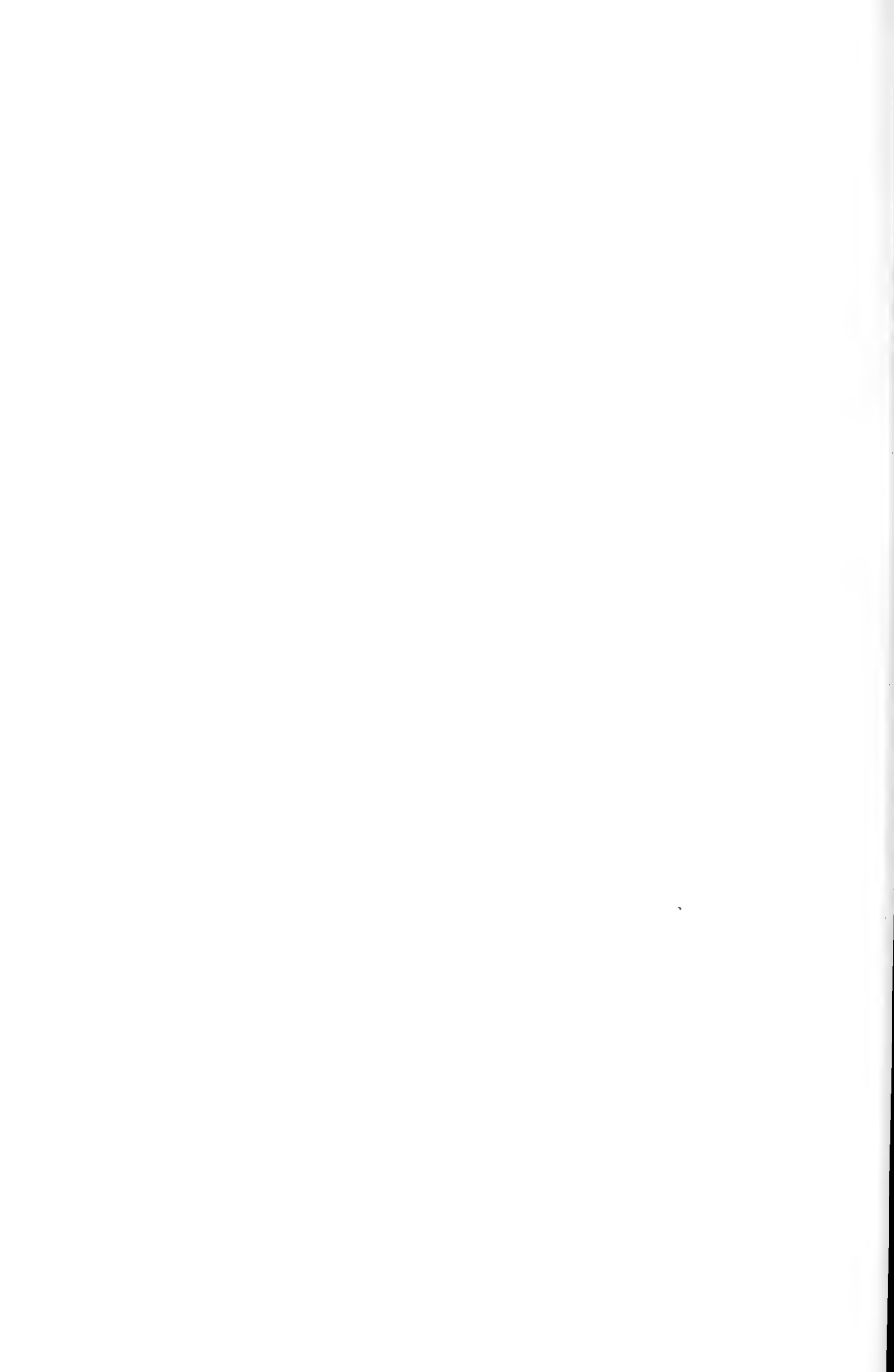
In 1870, Farrel and Chatfield retired, and the business was continued by Humphrey and Watson, until 1872, when Mr. William Lowe took the place of Mr. Humphrey. Messrs. Lowe and Watson continued the making of steam boilers successfully for ten years, until they were burned out, April 24, 1882. As they were unable to obtain a lease of the premises for a term of years, they secured a location of Mr. William H. Perry, adjoining the Housatonic railroad track, farther north.

The late Mr. Hanford Lyon purchased the water front of a portion of this property, and improved it, in connection with that which he previously owned, adjoining it on the south. This has been occupied as a coal yard by C. M. Noble and Company, and by Courtland Kelsey, and is now a part of the extensive yards of Messrs. Miller and Strickland.

Mr. Julius Hawley purchased of the Burroughs family, the Edwards property, on the south side of Gold street, extending to the channel of the harbor, which he has improved, and upon which is located the extensive lumber yards and steam saw-mill of the Bridgeport Lumber Company.

Messrs. Henry N. and Alonzo J. Beardsley purchased the water front of Mr. Abel Drew, which carried one-half of the width of Gold street from the east side of the tracks of the Consolidated railroads to the channel, which they are leisurely filling, and which will become a very valuable property.

The Housatonic Railroad Company have here a fine property, partly mud flats, which they will no doubt fill to the harbor line at no distant day. This done, it will afford room for the return to this point of their engine houses, thus relieving the crowded condition in the present locality of their buildings, and facilitating the removal of the tracks of the Consolidated road from lower Water street, an object most earnestly to be desired.



The whole plot, much of it forty years ago so quiet and so pleasant for family homes of the best sort, is now almost wholly given over to business.

The following list of names of householders, found on a separate sheet, with the date partly torn off, in the handwriting of the Rev. Samuel Cooke, the second pastor of the Stratfield Church, was preserved by the late Isaac Sherman, Esqr., and pasted upon a leaf of the manuscript book of his "Recollections." From the names found upon it, and others well known which are omitted, the date is known to have been 1733 or 1734. The list contains the names of heads of families then residing in the parish of Stratfield, and upon an estimate of five persons to each family there were about seven hundred persons in the parish.

*"A List of the Householders in Stratfield Anno Domini, 17—,
Disposed Alphabetically.*

James Bennitt, Sen ^r ,	John Edwards, Sen ^r ,	Richard Hubbell, Sen ^r ,
Isaac Bennitt,	Thomas Edwards,	James Hubbell,
William Bennitt,	John Edwards, Jun ^r ,	John Hubbell,
James Bennitt, Jun ^r ,	Sarah Fayerweather,	Daniel Hubbell,
Stephen Bennitt,	John Fayerweather,	— — —
William Beardsle, Sen ^r ,	Abigail Fayerweather,	Stephen Hubbell,
Daniel Beardsle,	Deborah Fairchild,	David Hubbell,
John Beardsle, Sen ^r ,	James Fairchild,	Joseph Hubbell,
Nathan Beardsle,	Samuel French's widow,	Ebenezer Hubbell,
William Beardsle, Jun ^r ,	Samuel French,	Zechariah Hubbell,
Ebenezer Beardsle,	Ebenezer French,	Richard Hubbell, Jun ^r ,
David Beardsle,	Samuel Gregory,	Andrew Hubbell,
John Beardsle, Jun ^r ,	Benjamin Gregory,	Nathan Hurd,
Obadiah Beardsle,	Ebenezer Gregory,	Moses Jackson,
Joseph Booth,	Thaddeus Gregory,	John Jackson's widow,
John Burr, Sen ^r ,	Enock Gregory,	Gabriel Jackson,
John Burr, Jun ^r ,	Francis Hall, Sen ^r ,	John Jackson,
Charles Burrett,	John Hall,	David Jackson, Sen ^r ,
Stephen Burrows,	Samuel Hall,	David Jackson, Jun ^r ,
Samuel Cable,	Burgess Hall,	John Jones,
Israel Chauncey,	Francis Hall, Jun ^r ,	Edward Lacy,
Robert Chauncey,	Richard Hall,	John Lacy,
Caleb Cole,	Elnathan Hall,	Ebenezer Lacy,
Daniel Comstock,	Ebenezer Hawley,	Zechariah Lawrence,
Samuel Cooke,	James Hawley,	Matthew McHard,
Elijah Crane,	William Hodgden,	John Mallet, Sen ^r ,
Jonah Curtiss,	Matthew Horn,	David Mallet, Jun ^r ,



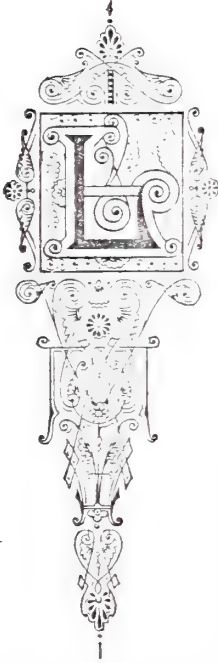
John Man,
Samuel Martin,
Nicholas Masters,
Zechariah Mead,
John Middlebrook,
Noah Morehouse,
John Odell,
Samuel Odell's widow,
William Odell,
Hezekiah Odell,
Samuel Odell,
Samuel Patchen,
Benjamin Phippeny,
John Porter,
Valentine Rowell,
Henry Rowland,
Zechariah Sanford,
Ezekiel Sanford,
Thomas Sanford,
James Seelye's widow,
Joseph Seelye,

David Sherman, Sen^r,
David Sherman, Jun^r,
Enos Sherman,
John Sherwood,
Nathaniel Sherwood,
Matthew Sherwood,
William Smith, Sen^r,
William Smith, Jun^r,
John Smith's widow,
Jacob Starling,
Henry Stevens,
Peter Stevens,
Thomas Stoddard,
Samuel Summer's widow,
Henry Summers,
John Summers,
David Summers,
Nathan Summers,
Edward Tredwell,
Deborah Tredwell,
Benjamin Tredwell,

Zechariah Tredwell,
Hezekiah Tredwell,
Samuel Tredwell,
Jacob Tredwell,
Samuel Trowbridge, Sen^r,
Samuel Trowbridge, Jun^r,
Jonah Turny,
Robert Turny,
Jonathan Wakely, Sen^r,
Henry Wakely,
Joseph Wakely,
Israel Wakely,
Nathaniel Wakely,
Jonathan Wakely, Jun^r,
Samuel Well's widow,
Samuel Wells,
John Wheeler,
Timothy Wheeler,
Isaac Wheeler,
Ebenezer Wheeler,
Richard Whitney."

CHAPTER II.

EARLY SETTLERS.

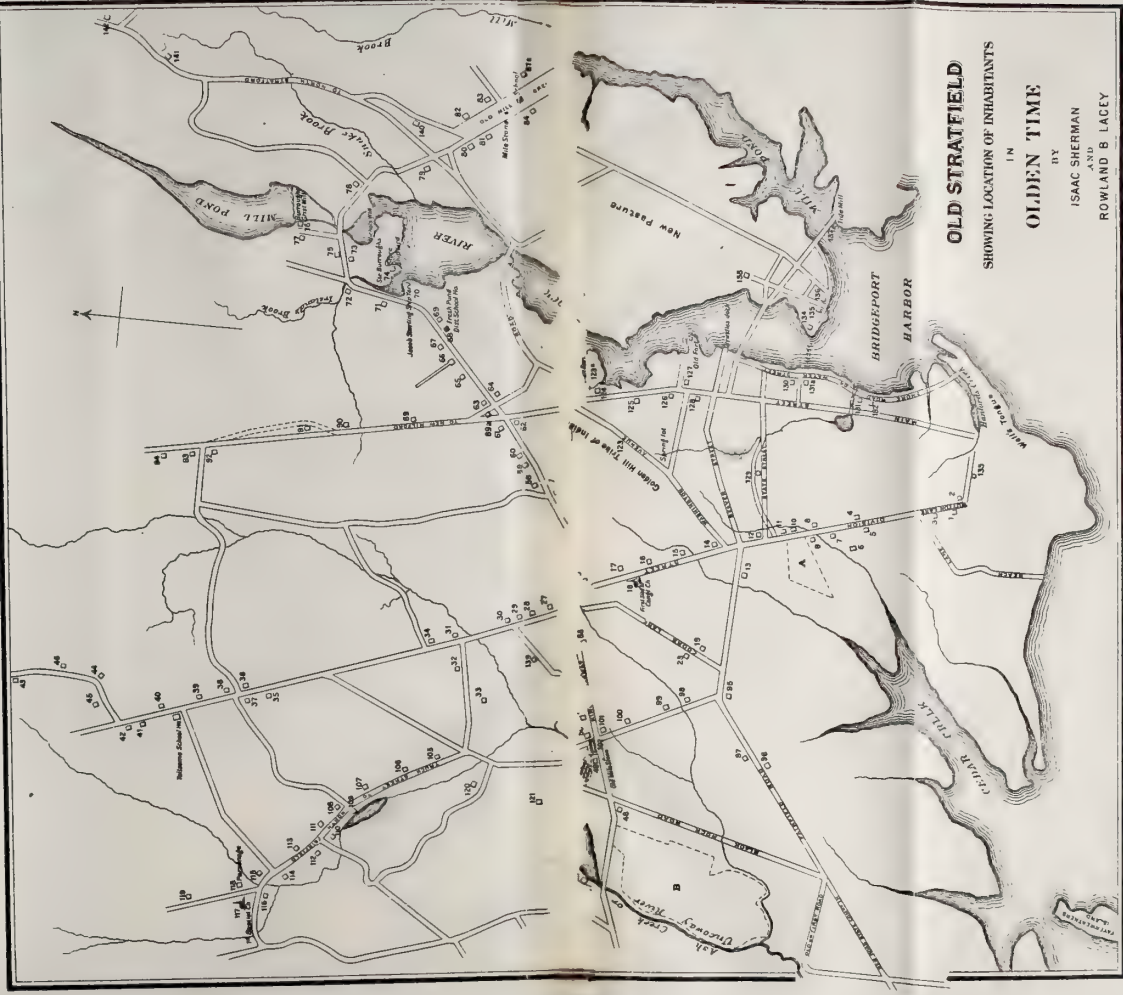


LOCATING the homes of the early settlers is a work costing much time for research and study, and but for the manuscript book of Dea. Isaac Sherman, no attempt would have been made, either to provide the accompanying map, or to prepare the following biographical sketches. But, since that book was in existence, largely by the forethought and perseverance of Dea. Rowland B. Lacey in fixing Deacon Sherman's attention to it, before he died, this list became possible, and has been completed with a considerable degree of accuracy, so far as it goes. It is not claimed that the list includes all the early settlers, nor all that could be said of them, because Deacon Sherman gave only his recollections of what he had heard and known personally, and there could not be taken time sufficient to search the records so thoroughly as to perfect the work, although much that is given by Deacon Sherman has been confirmed by the town and society books.¹

1

Recollections of Isaac Sherman.

The long life of Isaac Sherman in this community and his extensive personal acquaintance, his familiarity with the church and parish records, his respect for his own ancestry and his genealogical studies, his intercourse with and fondness for elderly people, his extensive business associations, his investigations for the establishment of pension claims, his experience in connection with the settlement and distribution of estates, all contributed to furnish his observant and retentive mind with a fund of information in regard to the early settlement and history of Stratfield and Bridgeport. He could give the exact location of the old families and much about their descendants, the settlement of the Newfields—now the city of Bridgeport—the rise and progress of business, and business firms, how composed, where



OLD STRATFIELD
 SHOWING LOCATION OF INHABITANTS
 IN
OLDEN TIME
 BY
 ISAAC SHERMAN
 AND
 ROWLAND B. LACEY

11:15 - 12
INSERT
FOLD-OUT
OR MAP
HERE!



No. 1. Isaac Wheeler, son of Ephraim, one of the first settlers in Fairfield, in 1644, was a farmer and a large landholder, for his mother in 1681, paid tax on 706 acres of land, Isaac having received his proportion before his father's death in 1670.

He was one of the nine male members of the first Stratfield Church at its organization under Rev. Charles Chauncey, June 13, 1695; which Church is now located in Bridgeport, called the First Congregational Church.

No. 2. Samuel Welles was a farmer with a good farm, Welles' Tongue being a small part of it. He was the son of John Welles, and grandson of Governor Thomas Welles, and this land or farm was first laid out to John Welles and given in his will to this son Samuel. He had one son, named David Wakeman Welles.

No. 3. John Mallett was a Frenchman and a farmer. Lewis Mallett who resided on the old place was a descendant. All the Malletts at Tashua are descendants of said John Mallett.

No. 4. Benjamin Hubbell was a farmer. He married a half sister of Doct. Stephen Middlebrook, of Trumbull. They had one son, John Hubbell, who married Betty, daughter of Joseph Brothwell, and had five daughters: Betsey, who married Timothy Risley; Polly, who married Yale E. Hough; Anna, who married Zalmon Hawley. Zalmon Hawley had Maria, who married Capt. John Brooks, Jr.; Marietta, who married Capt. Burr Knapp; and one son John, who died young.

located, and whether successful or not. No one had attempted to cover the field, and no one living could do it as he could, and, unless by himself committed to paper, before his decease, it was certain that very much would be inevitably lost.

This consideration was frequently urged upon him for years without success. After his retirement from public business, his consent to enter upon the work was gained, the plan as laid out for him pursued, with success, and the result is manifest in these sketches, numbered in regular order for reference to the accompanying map.

To the labors of Esquire Sherman, Dea. Rowland B. Lacey has added about forty sketches, upon much careful enquiry and research, and the whole forms a valuable portion of the history of Bridgeport.

No. 5. Benjamin Wheeler was a farmer, and was a grandson of Isaac Wheeler.² Said Benjamin was the father of Timothy, and grandfather of Benjamin, Ezra and Hannah.

No. 6. Samuel Odell, a farmer, was justice of the peace, and an active member of the church and society. One of his daughters is now [1856] living, and is over 90 years of age. She is the widow of Samuel Wheeler. Her name is Julia Wheeler, and she draws a pension for the services of said Samuel in the Revolution. Samuel Odell had one son by the name of Maline Odell, who was lost at sea about the year 1800, in a clipper-built schooner, commanded by Capt. Benjamin Wheeler, a descendant of Isaac, who with all his crew was lost in said schooner, for they were never heard from after they sailed from New York. Said Capt. Benjamin Wheeler left a wife and the following children: Ira B.; Daniel Odell; Sally, who married Moses Platt; Betsey, who married David Ufford, and Marrietta, who married Gideon Thompson.

No. 7. Capt. Abel Wakelee, a sailor, was lost at sea in the brig Julius Cæsar on a voyage from the West Indies bound to Bridgeport with a load of salt. The crew and officers were all saved in the long boat when the brig sunk, except Abel and a colored man named Ned, who was a slave to Capt. Amos Hubbell, the owner of the brig.

Capt. Abel Wakelee's descendants were Charles and Walker, who have died leaving no children. His widow's name was Grace.

No. 8. William Rose, a Frenchman, was one of the little colony of Frenchmen in Nova Scotia, at the time Canada was taken from the French by the English when the colony was broken up by the order of the English Government before the Revolution, and distributed among the different thirteen states. Mr. Rose was landed in this parish and Dr. Fogg, also, was one of said neutral French who settled in Fairfield. Mr. Rose was a gardener, and he married Jennette Mann. His children were: Peter, Mabel, Charity and Polly.

² This is doubtful. See Wheeler Genealogy.

Doctor Fogg was settled in Fairfield and was an acceptable physician. He died since the Revolution.

William Rose used to fish at a fishweir in Bridgeport harbor, in a boat alone, accompanied by his faithful dog, Lyon. On one of the fishing days he had the misfortune to fall overboard and was near being drowned when the dog swam to him and he clasped the dog's tail and directed him to swim for the shore. When the dog had towed his master almost to the shore he turned about to swim off, when Mr. Rose in his broken French, called, "tudder way, Lyon," and, obeying his master, drew him to the shore. William Rose died April 21, 1812, aged 90 years.

No. 9. *Hezekiah Wheeler*, a tailor by trade, was employed in making buckskin breeches, which were in his day the common wear for men and boys, and were used in some families as late as the year 1800. He had one son, a sailor, named Wilson, who was lost at sea. Hezekiah Wheeler, and his son now living in New York, are descendants of said Isaac Wheeler.

No. A. *Bridgeport and Stratfield Burying Ground.* From the earliest settlement up to 1812, the "Old Stratfield Burial Ground" was made the resting place of the dead in Stratfield Parish. At this period, even with the addition of 1772, the old ground had become too strait, and, upon petition of James E. Beach and others, to the October session of the General Assembly of 1811, showing that they had purchased a piece of land bounded north on Silas Sherman; east on highway (Division street), south and west on Abijah Hawley's land, the said proprietors and their associates were duly incorporated to be known by the name of "The Bridgeport and Stratfield Burying Ground Association." Lambert Lockwood was named as the first clerk, and it was especially provided that "said burying ground shall forever remain and be used as and for a burying ground, and for that purpose only." Provision was made for its layout into lots and the proprietor of a lot became a legal member of the Corporation, and he, his heirs, successors, or assigns, entitled to one vote for every lot he or they possessed. A son of Mr. Ezra Wheeler was the first child and Mr. Elijah



Burr was the first adult buried in this ground in 1812. Upon petition to the General Assembly at the May session, 1835, an addition was made at the west end.

Here nearly two generations were laid from 1812 to 1850, about 4,000 interments.

For some years the immediate vicinity had become so thickly settled that it had become an unsuitable place for a cemetery, and in 1849 Mountain Grove Cemetery was inaugurated. About 1860, special efforts began to be made to get a vote in this association for removal to Mountain Grove or some other point, but met with most decided opposition, as did repeated efforts.

The agitation of the subject for a general removal made many proprietors timid in respect to the permanency of their tenure, and numerous voluntary removals were made to Mountain Grove and elsewhere. The vacated and unused lots were bought up by parties desiring removal until they held a majority, and under an Act or Resolution of the General Assembly of May, 1873, the removal was consummated during the years 1873 and 1874, under commissioners named in said Act. Hon. P. T. Barnum became the purchaser of the entire territory through David W. Sherwood, his agent, and the removals were made largely under supervision of George Poole to the westerly side of the grounds in Mountain Grove Cemetery, numbering in all over three thousand. The site on the westerly side of Park avenue is now, in 1885, mostly covered by streets and cottages, and no vestige of its former use appears.

No. 10. *William Hubbell* was by occupation a house painter. His children were David, and Grizell, and other daughters.

Justin Smith,³ a native of Springfield, Mass., was a stone-cutter, specially skilled in working the brown stone of the Chatham, now Portland, quarries in Connecticut. In 1789, he embarked from that place with a vessel load of the Chatham stone, his family and household goods destined for Mill river at Fairfield, but his load was not consigned.

³ This name is not located on the map.



In a stress of weather he ran his vessel into Bridgeport harbor, where, while weather bound, he made some acquaintance, through which some of the leading men learned who he was, what his cargo, and his skill as a stone-cutter, and persuaded him to unload the vessel and establish himself and business here.

The many fine brown stone tablets and head-stones in the old Stratfield burying-ground and many others that were put up in the Division Street (Stratfield and Bridgeport) cemetery, and removed thence to Mountain Grove Cemetery, attest his skill and industry. His residence was on the site now occupied by the dwelling of Mr. F. W. Marsh, No. 240 Park avenue, and he was a most excellent Christian man. He died March 17, 1835, aged 81 years. His wife was Mary Fox, of Chatham. She survived her husband fourteen years and died May 21, 1849, at the great age of 92 years.

Their children were Abner and Justin, who both died young, and Sophia, Mary and Mehitabel. Sophia married Robert Treadwell, son of David, and removed to Southbury. Mary married Agur Beach, of Trumbull, and Mehitabel married Eli Gilman and lived in Hartford.

Mary (Smith) Beach still survives and lacks but a few days of 93 years of age—bright and well, although a little lame,—and is anticipating great pleasure in celebrating her 93d birth-day, on the 24th of September, 1885.

Her husband, Agur, was the son of Everett Beach and his wife Rebecca, daughter of the Rev. James Beebe, of North Stratford. He died of fever in New York city, where he was in business, October 7, 1822, aged 31 years, leaving a widow and two young daughters with slender means.

On the death of her father she established herself at the parental homestead and took the entire care of her aged mother while she lived.

For many years, each season has brought out a store of her handiwork in knitted articles of personal wear and of bed quilts, nicely pieced for quilting, for the Home Missionary boxes. With the completion of the pair of hose now nearly done, she will have knitted for and donated one hundred pair of stockings to the Home of the Friendless in New York



City, besides her numerous gifts in her more immediate vicinity.

She is probably the oldest person living in the town of Bridgeport, at least the oldest native born, and seems likely to become a centenarian.

No. 11. *Capt. Samuel Wakelee*, a shipmaster, employed before the Revolution in transporting passengers from Europe. He was a brother of Zebulon Wakelee. On one of his voyages his provisions failed and he and the crew were reduced to a state of starvation before they obtained relief.

No. 12. *Capt. William Worden* was a farmer and house carpenter. He was captain of a militia company, called Householders, in the Revolution. The company was raised in the parish, and they were not liable to do ordinary military duty.

He was a tall, spare built, leading man in the town and society, and was quite aged at the time of his death. He came here from an eastern town, and was a strong Whig, as most of the inhabitants were at the time of the Revolution. He had sons Samuel and William, and grandsons Thomas Cook, William, Levi, Abijah and Daniel. Capt. William Worden married a daughter of Samuel Odell, Esqr.

No. 13. *Justus Burr* was a farmer, and son of Col. John Burr. His children were, John, Aaron, Comfort, and two other daughters.

Justus Burr was killed in his own barn, when he was drawing in a load of hay, being crushed by the oxen running through a small door.

No. 14. *Ezra Kirtland* was a blacksmith by trade. He came to this place before the Revolution, from Wallingford. He owned a farm on the old Golden Hill road, now called Washington avenue, which contained a part of the land on which the village of the Pequonnock Indians was located at the first settlement of the parish. The Kirtland family appear to have owned all the land south of Washington ave. as far east as the spring lot beyond Courtland street and south to the present line of Fairfield avenue. He was the ancestor



of all the Kirtlands of this parish. He married a daughter of Zebulon Wakelee and had two sons—Zebulon and Ezra. Zebulon, Jr., married Betty Cook, a grand-daughter of the Rev. Samuel Cook, and Ezra married Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Wheeler.

No. 15. *Capt. Joseph Knapp, Sen.*, was for many years master of a coasting vessel employed in carrying grain and other products for the farmers, from this place to Boston, which coasting trade was profitable from the first settlement of the parish down to about the year 1835.

Before the Revolution there were four or five vessels employed in this trade, but after the war there was an average number of about ten.

The first merchants in Bridgeport purchased their goods in Boston until about the year 1790, after which they purchased in New York.

He was a thin, spare man about five feet nine inches; was prominent in the town and society and lived to be quite aged. He had three children: Joseph, Jr., Patience and Ruth. Joseph, Jr., was recently killed by the fall of a tree when he was about 80 years of age. He was a shoemaker by trade and occupied the same house his father did.

No. 16. *Thaddeus Gregory* was a merchant and house joiner. On being chosen to some military office he came out in front of the company with his hat off to make his acknowledgments, but when he had proceeded so far in a speech as to say, "fellow soldiers," he gave up in despair, and putting his hand on his breast exclaimed, "it is in here but I cannot get it out." He and his wife were both members of the church in 1731. He died in 1777 aged 77 years.

No. 17. *Zebulon Wakelee*, a farmer, lived on the east side of Division street on old Meeting-house Hill, nearly opposite where the first meeting-house was built.

He had one daughter, named Olive, who married Ezra Kirtland, Sen. Zebulon Wakelee died in 1767, aged 55 years.

No. 18. The old first Congregational meeting-house in the wilderness on Meeting-house Hill was built about the

year 1693. The church was gathered, June 13, 1695, and the Rev. Charles Chauncey, a son of the Rev. Israel Chauncey of Stratford, was ordained their pastor.

The first settlers were called together by the beat of the drum, and carried arms to defend the congregation from an attack by Indians.

This first meeting-house was probably located on the town line between Fairfield and Stratford, half in one town and half in the other, or directly in the middle of the highway, on the hill, for the town of Stratford voted the liberty to set part of it on its territory.⁴ It was a small house, and was in use only twenty-four years, when the second one was built.

No. 19. *Rev. Charles Chauncey* was the first pastor of the "Church of Christ in Stratfield." For a sketch of him see page 15 of this book.

No. 20. *Andrew Sherwood* was a farmer and blacksmith. His sons were David and Zachariah Sherwood.

No. 21. *The School House* of the old south district was located, previous to about 1830, on the westerly side of Division street, a few rods south of the present North avenue. The traveled roadway diverged to the east at that point to avoid a ledge of rocks, under the lee of which, at the southerly side, there was a level space of sufficient size to accommodate the house.

The character of the school at that time was rather superior, since some of the older scholars at the Fresh Pond district attended here because of the advantages it afforded.

No. 22. *The Second Meeting-house*^{4a} was located on the old Fairfield and Stratford country road; was erected in 1717, and taken down about the year 1835. It was occupied by the First Congregational Society until the year 1807, when this society built by subscription a new frame meeting-house in the village of Bridgeport on land donated by Richard and Amos Hubbell, on the corner of Bank, Broad and John

⁴ See page 474 of the History of Old Stratford.

^{4a} See page 18 of this book.

streets, which frame church was sold to Christ Church and removed into John street, where a few years later it was burned. The first Congregational Society erected their fourth church, built in 1850, on the same site where the third stood.

No. 23. *Rev. Samuel Cooke* was the second pastor of the Church of Christ at Stratfield. For a sketch of him see page 20 of this book.

No. 24. *Lewis Angervine*, a Frenchman, and by occupation a weaver, left no descendants, if he had any. Mrs. W. R. Bunnell owns the land on which his house stood. An anecdote has been related of him, which gives an insight into his character.

"When he was courting his wife at a place where he was not known, he represented to her that he was well off as to property, and that if she would marry him she should never wash her hands in cold water. Soon after marriage she reminded him of this promise, upon which he replied that she need not wash in cold water for she could warm it."

No. 25. *Capt. Thaddeus Bennett*, a shoemaker and farmer, was the captain of the trainband at the commencement of the Revolutionary War and went to New York with his company in August, 1776, to defend the city against the British troops. His company suffered considerable loss by death, and the captain died soon after returning home from the campaign in 1777. He left two sons—Joseph Wilson Bennett and Thaddeus Bennett, and two daughters, Grizell and Sarah Bennett, both of whom were pensioners for the service of their husbands in the Revolution. Grizell married Isaac Odell, who was a sergeant in the army, and Sarah married Nathan Fairchild.

No. 26. *Lieut. David Sherman* was a farmer, and lieutenant of the militia company of Stratfield, and a leading public man in the town and society. He was the son of Matthew Sherman, and died aged 60 years, and was buried in the old parish burying ground. He erected the old two-story, long-back-roof dwelling house in the year 1717. It was in



the common style of New England farm houses, and stood near the spot where Mr. John H. Beach's house now stands. His homestead contained about one hundred acres, besides woodland at Toilsome and a large farm at Tashua. Lieut. David Sherman was nephew to Deacon David Sherman, who says in his will: "I do make and ordain my well-beloved kinsman, David Sherman, my sole executor of this my last will and testament." He had three sons—Elnathan, Jonathan and David. Jonathan never married. Elnathan married Eunice Gregory.

David married Mary Sterling and occupied his father's house and homestead. He was killed by lightning in the old Pequonnock meeting-house July 28, 1771.

The said David that was killed in the meeting-house had three children—Huldah, who married Doct. James E. Beach, David, the father of Esquire Isaac Sherman, the author of these sketches, and Isaac, who died young.

No. 27. Doctor James Eaton Beach, was a descendant on his mother's side of Gov. Theophilus Eaton, of the New Haven Colony, and came from New Haven to Stratfield about the year 1778, where he settled as a parish physician.

He married, about 1780, Huldah, daughter of David Sherman, Jr., and Mary (Sterling) Sherman, and erected his dwelling on the Sherman property a few rods north of the homestead.

He had a wide practice, was a capable and public spirited man. He was especially helpful to young men of good character and habits in starting in business, aiding them by his name, counsel and capital.

He was the responsible member of the following firms, and perhaps others:

Beach and Sterling, in 1794 (David Sterling), who were merchants in dry goods, groceries and drugs.

Beach and Sterling, in 1804 (Jesse Sterling), merchants in dry-goods, groceries and drugs.

Beach and Sterling, in 1815 (Sylvanus Sterling), merchants in dry goods, groceries and drugs.

Beach and Sherman (Isaac Sherman and Sterling Sherman) groceries, grain business, and New York packeting.



The Juniors in each of these firms were the active partners and conducted the business, while Doctor Beach furnished the capital and for which he received interest and a share of the profits, which appear to have been very satisfactory.

Doctor Beach was active and influential in the Stratfield Congregational Church, and for many years served it as chorister. He was deacon from 1806 to 1830, and gave a silver tankard for the communion service, which is still in use, in the First Congregational Church of Bridgeport. He died in 1838, aged 75 years.

His children were, a son Isaac Eaton, and daughters Polly and Laura.

Isaac Eaton Beach lived at the homestead, enlarged for his accommodation, and his descendants occupy the ancestral lands.

Polly Beach married Sylvanus Sterling and lived at what is now No. 84 Golden Hill street. Mr. Sterling died in 1848, and Mrs. Sterling in 1866, leaving no children, but a considerable estate.

By the will of Mrs. Sterling the homestead was given to the First Congregational Society of Bridgeport for a parsonage, and after providing for friends, the residue was given to the society known as the Bridgeport Protestant Widows' Relief Society for the establishment of a Home and for general aid, and the society has become one of the leading charities of Bridgeport.⁵

Laura Beach married Ira Sherman, a descendant of Lieut. David (No. 26) through Elnathan (No. 34), and always resided at what is now No. 247 Main street, dying at an advanced age. Their only daughter, Mary B. Sherman, married James C. Loomis, Esq.

Both Mrs. Sterling and Mrs. Sherman were remarkable for their large charities while living, giving liberally in the line of the religious charities of the Congregational Church with which they were connected; and also to numerous

⁵ The Sterling Home was incorporated at the January session of the General Assembly in 1885.



widows, orphans and families whose needy circumstances came to their knowledge.

No. 28. *Jabez Sherman* was a farmer and removed to New Haven about the time of the Revolutionary War.

No. 29. *Josiah Treadwell* was a weaver by trade. His house was in the common style, two stories, and lighted with diamond window glass set in lead sash. His children were: Josiah, Jr., Samuel, Elijah, and three daughters. One married Thomas Cook, one married John Wheeler, and one married Mr. Turney, of Fairfield. His house being old was taken down soon after he died in 1798.

No. 30. *Samuel Treadwell* was a weaver, and son of Josiah. He married first Rachel Barnum, and had sons Samuel, Jr., and Barnum. He married second, Mercy Babcock, from Rhode Island. She was high-spirited and used to say she was of high blood, and that she did not come from any mean family.

They were low in circumstances, some years, during which a friend coming to see her, she remarked: "My husband is generally a good provider, although he is a little slack just now."

No. 31. *Enoch Gregory* was a large farmer and slave holder. He had one slave named Neptune, born in Africa, who had a son called after the master's family, Tony Gregory, who was an honest Negro. Enoch Gregory's children, Samuel, Daniel and Plumb, and others, settled at Tashua.

No. 32. *Andrew Beardsley* was a weaver. John W. Beardsley, and Henry and Rufus Burr, and the wife of Mr. Joseph Mott, all residents of Bridgeport, are among his descendants.

No. 33. *John Hall* was a weaver. His descendants are not remembered, except a daughter Julia, who married Squire Lacey as first husband, and afterwards the Rev. Nathaniel Ruggles, who, in connection with the Rev. John N. Maffit, was the founder of the first M. E. Church in the city of Bridgeport in 1822.



No. 34. Elnathan Sherman was a son of Lieutenant David. His wife, Eunice (Gregory) Sherman, died in 1793, in a fit, while kneading bread. They had sons: Abijah and Ebenezer, and daughters, Sarah, who married Stephen Sterling, Hannah, and Mary. One of these married Thomas Edwards.

No. 35. Joseph Hall, a farmer and a buckskin leather dresser, died at Toilsome, aged 94 years. He and his children were among the first Methodists in this parish. He had one son, named Hezekiah, and three daughters: Alice, married Ebenezer Brown; Molly married Stephen Wells, and Ruth never married. The whole family lived to a good old age and never disgraced their religious profession.

No. 36. Capt. Samuel Sherwood was a farmer and a slave owner. He married Ann, daughter of Theophilus Nichols, by whom he came into possession of a portion of New Pasture Point, which was afterwards called Sherwood's Point, from which vessels were loaded for the West Indies. His children were: Lucy, who married Capt. David Barlow; Philemon, who married Hepzibah Burr, a daughter of Justus Burr and granddaughter of Col. John Burr, and David, who never married.

No. 37. The Toilsome School-house, in Toilsome district, was occupied many years by a school-master who bore the honorable title of Master Wheeler.⁶ He married Dolly, daughter of Deacon David Sherman; had a daughter named Dolly, and one named Eunice. Deacon Sherman died in 1753, after which Master Wheeler occupied his house. Also, he had another daughter, who married Abijah Beardsley. She drew a pension for her husband's service in the Revolution. She lived to a good old age at Fresh Pond, near the brick house now occupied by Joseph Seeley, Esqr.

No. 38. Samuel Brinsmade, a cabinet-maker, married Peninah Burritt, and had no children. He was the only

⁶ His name was John Wheeler.



very proud man in the parish; was a fine looking man. He cultivated peaches, pears and apples for market.

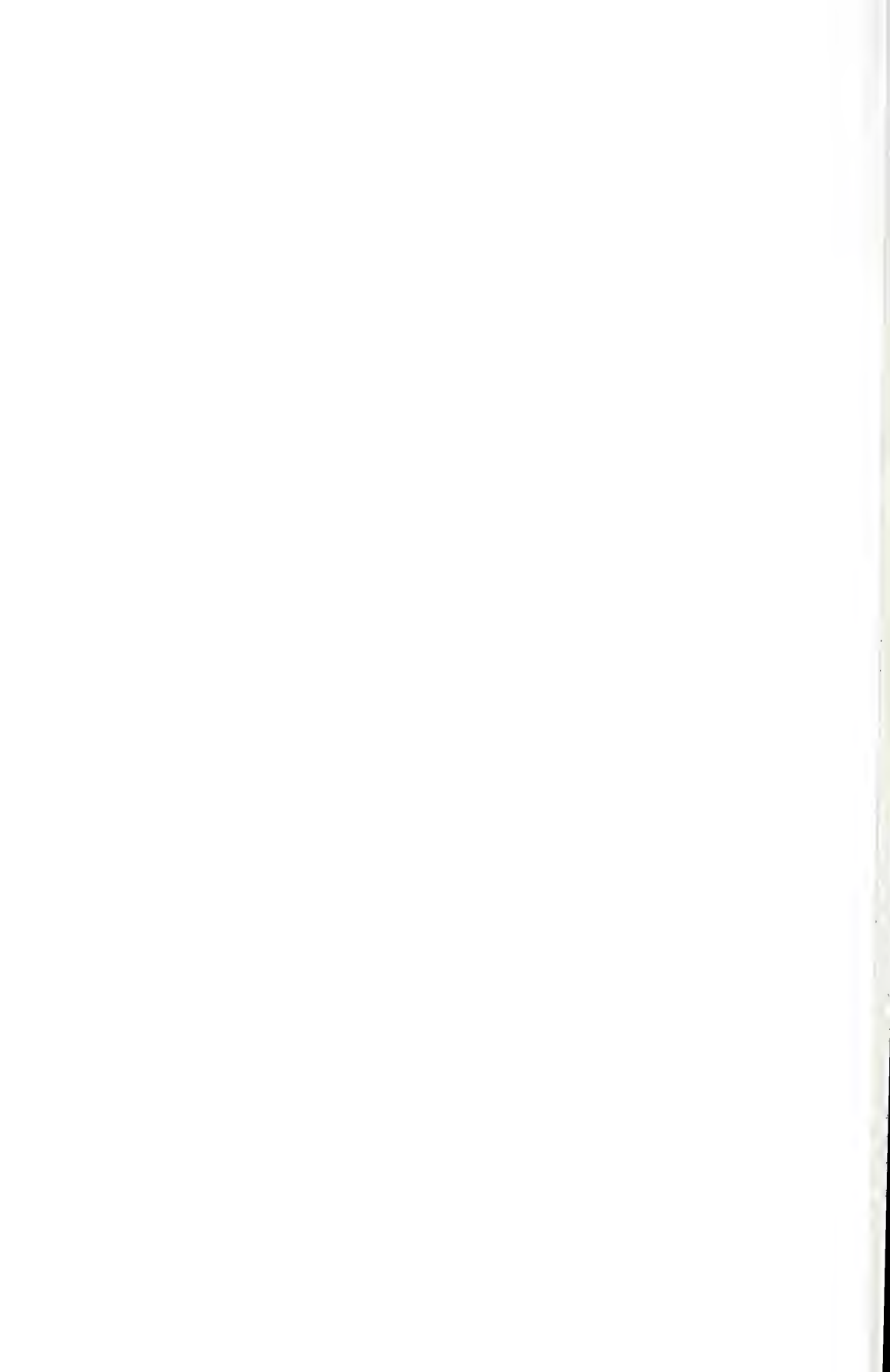
No. 39. *Dea. Henry Rowland*, a farmer, married Dea. David Sherman's daughter Tamar in 1718. He was the grandson of Henry Rowland, who came to Fairfield from the county of Essex in England. He was chosen Deacon of the Stratfield Church in 1756 and died 1775 at the age of 84 years. Rev. David Sherman Rowland, of Windsor, Conn., was his son. Dea. Rowland B. Lacey, of Bridgeport, is also a descendant, through another son Edmund.

No. 40. *Dea. David Sherman* was a large farmer and one of the first generation of settlers in said parish. His house and homestead were on the top of Toilsome Hill—a large, two-story dwelling with a long back roof, built in the best style of his day, with a high porch in front and small diamond windows, set in lead sash. He was one of the first nine male members of the first Congregational Church. He was the son of Mr. Samuel Sherman, of Stratford, who came from the town of Dedham, county of Essex in England.

Old Mr. Elijah Burritt, when he was 96 years of age, told me that David Sherman was the first deacon of said Church, that he had been well acquainted with him; was at his funeral, and that he was gifted in prayer and took the lead in the meetings when the pastor was absent;⁷ and was very much esteemed in the parish. His gravestone, standing in the western part of the old burying-place, bears the titled inscription, "Capt. David Sherman." He had nine daughters, all of whom were married and appear to have been well settled in life.

No. 41. *Samuel Edwards* was a farmer. His son, Shelton Edwards, when a lad about fifteen years of age, was clerk in the store of David and John DeForest; the store then standing on the corner of State and Water streets in Bridgeport in 1796. In the autumn of the year about ten o'clock in the evening, young Edwards was murdered in the store by his skull being broken in three places by a shoe-

⁷ Esquire Isaac Sherman says this.



maker's hammer, and his throat cut from ear to ear. His body was then wrapped in his bed clothes and put under the counter and the store set on fire. David and John DeForest were young men unmarried, and affirmed that their store was robbed of over one thousand dollars in hard money at the time of said murder. There was no bank-note currency at that time. No clue to said murder has ever been found. The store was soon discovered to be on fire, and the fire was put out before much damage was done. A piece of broadcloth was found under a lot of boards near the store. This casualty caused the failure of the DeForest brothers. David went to the Brazils, where he made a fortune and obtained the title Don David DeForest. He married a Miss Wooster and returned to New Haven, where he built a house.

No. 42. *Ebenezer Hall* was a farmer, and married for his second wife the widow of Capt. Thaddeus Bennett. Seth Hall was his son, and was a poet and post-rider for many years. He and his father were both old men when they died. The Halls in this parish appear to be a long-lived race.

No. 43. *Nathaniel Sherwood* was an early settler and a farmer. He was the son of Samuel, the son of Matthew. He lived on Toilsome Hill, and married one of the nine daughters of Dea. David Sherman. He had one son, Samuel, and a daughter, Eunice, who married Abijah Sterling.

No. 44. *Gurdon Sherwood* was a farmer and married Hannah Hawley. He died young, leaving no children. He died with the small-pox taken the natural way. His widow married a Mr. Penfield of Fairfield. She gave in her will one share of Connecticut bank stock to the First Congregational Society in Bridgeport, the interest or dividend to be applied to the use of said society forever. She was a member of this Church, and died aged about 83 years.

No. 45. *Capt. John Edwards* was a native of Scotland, and came to this country about the year 1700. He was an officer in the army in Scotland when he was taken prisoner, and as he was a rebel against the government he was sentenced to be shot, and on the way to the place of execu-

tion, guarded by a company of light horse, he made his escape and hid himself under a bridge. They searched for him under the bridge where he was, but did not find him. From this place he made his way to a vessel, on board of which he came to this country. It is supposed that he landed at Black Rock harbor, and that he built his house on Chestnut Hill, the country being a wilderness, so that he would be concealed from any ships that might be looking after him. From his dwelling he could overlook Black Rock harbor. He was known by the title of Duke, but on his gravestone he bears the title of Captain. He died aged 88 years, about the year 1740, and is buried with his wife Mary in the old Stratfield burying-place, near the southwest corner.

He gave a silver cup to the first Congregational Church in Bridgeport that is now used in the communion service.

He is the ancestor of nearly all by the name of Edwards in this region of country. "He was," says Esquire Sherman, "grandfather to my grandmother, Betty Edwards, who married my grandfather, John French. So that I am part Scotch blood and part English."

No. 46. Dea. Abel Seeley was a farmer, but left no descendants. He left his estate to Capt. Elijah Peet, his adopted son.

No. 47. Jackson's Mill. The first settler here by the name of Jackson was Henry, who came from Watertown, Mass. The family was prominent and somewhat numerous in the early period of Fairfield and Stratfield, though now scarcely represented.

Henry Jackson, who sold his Fairfield Mill to Thomas Morehouse, probably erected a mill on this location about 1667. Mary Jackson was admitted to full fellowship in the Stratfield Church from the Church in Norwalk, Conn., Dec. 20, 1697.

In the Acts of the General Assembly, May, 1701, defining the boundary line of Stratfield Parish: It is ordered and enacted, "That the line to be the west boundary of the said plantation shall run so that it may include within their bounds one Moses Jackson, Miller, his housing and lands, and run on the west side of old Jackson's lotts, viz., pasture, building lot and long lot."

In Fairfield Town Record,⁸ under date Aug. 14, 1731, Moses Jackson is said to have "had quiet possession of his mill for fifteen years last past." In the list of Household-ers, made by Rev. Samuel Cooke, in 1733 or 1734, the following names occur: Moses Jackson, John Jackson, widow Gabriel Jackson, John Jackson, David Jackson, Sen., David Jackson, Jr. The lands of this family seem to have been located on the westerly side of Truck street.

No. 48. *Silas Hawley* was a farmer and has no descendants now living in this parish. His house was owned and occupied by Amos Burr, Esqr.

No. 49. *John Nichols* was a farmer, blacksmith and inn-keeper. General Washington stopped at his house as he was going to meet General Lafayette at Rhode Island. Opposite to his house there is now standing one of the mile stones



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S MILE-STONE.

erected by Benjamin Franklin before the Revolution, when he was Colonial Postmaster General. He measured the old

⁸ Book B., page 520.

country stage-road from Philadelphia to Boston, by an ingenious device affixed to his carriage as he passed over the road, which marked the miles, and at the end of each mile he caused a stone to be erected with the number of miles from one important place to another, cut on each stone.

The Nichols house is still standing on the corner of said road, and the public parade ground is near it and near the old burying-place.

John Nichols owned a slave named Tom, who ran away from his master and was never recovered.

No. 50. William Burr, Esq., was a merchant and justice of the peace, and a descendant of Col. John Burr. The site of his house is now occupied by the new house of Sherwood Sterling, Esq.

No. 51. Joseph Strong, Esq., was a farmer, and justice of the peace. His children were John Strong, the only son; and daughters Deborah, Sarah, Charity, Ann, and Comfort. Deborah married David Sterling. Charity married Ira Jones, the first printer of a paper called the American Telegraph, in Bridgeport, in company with Lazarus Beach, about the year 1796.

No. 52. Rev. Robert Ross was born in America, in 1726, of Irish parents; was graduated at Princeton College in 1751, receiving his diploma from President Burr, and ordained pastor of the Stratfield Church, November 28, 1753, and labored as such for more than forty-two years. He was a strong Whig in the Revolution, and when the first military company was raised in 1775 to go to Canada to take Fort St. John's it was mustered in his door yard, where they all kneeled down while he offered prayer, and I believe it to be a fact that all of the company returned in safety, says Esquire Sherman.

He published a sermon, from these words: "And there were great searchings of heart for the divisions of Reuben." He also made a grammar and spelling book for schools.

He was about six feet in height, well-proportioned, and of rather imposing presence. He wore a wig, cocked hat,



ruffled bosomed shirt, black coat, vest and breeches, with white topped boots, cramped so as to set tight on the instep. As he was once on a journey he got them wet, and, having pulled them off to dry could not get them on again; therefore he tied them with his mail straps to his saddle, and on his way he met parson Bellamy, when they commenced the old dispute about foreordination and free will.

Parson Ross was of the Old Light party, and was considered orthodox, and parson Bellamy was of the New Light party. "Now," said parson Ross, "You think you can reconcile foreordination with free will?" "Yes." "Well, you can even tell why my boots are tied on behind me?" This he could not do, and in it parson Ross had an illustration, for he believed in election, foreordination and free will, but denied the power of man to reconcile them.

Parson Ross, on a certain occasion preached a sermon before the Association; and tradition reports that at the close of the sermon he said: "My brethren, we are charged in the text to be wise as the serpent and harmless as the dove, but I think we ought to be cunninger than the serpent, which is the Devil; we ought to outwit him."

Parson Ross was a slave-holder and owned one African slave by the name of Pedro. He held no slaves after the Revolution.

He resigned his pastorate April 30, 1796, and died August 29, 1799, of a fever, and within twenty-four hours Mrs. Ross died of the same disease, and they were both buried in the same grave. Their only son then living, Merrick Ross, died nine days after, and was buried also in the same grave. He had an elder son who was drowned in his father's well. He also had a daughter Sarah.

No. 53. Benjamin Fayerweather was a farmer, and was the owner of Fayerweather's Island, where Black Rock light house now stands. He had one son, Nathaniel, who married Charity Summers, and they had, James, Daniel, and Polly, who married William Eaton. Nathaniel Fayerweather was taken prisoner by the British on Long Island Sound and confined in prison in what was afterward Dr. Spring's old

Brick Church, which was then in possession of the enemy and was used as a prison. He died of small-pox in this prison. His widow died in this parish aged over 90 years. She was a convert of the Rev. Samuel Blatchford, and was a mother in Israel.

No. 54. *First Protestant Episcopal Church* in the parish. The Episcopalians in the parish of Stratfield, erected in 1748, a small frame church with a steeple surmounted with a gilt weather-cock; that device being used as emblematical of the crowing of the cock when the Apostle Peter denied his Lord.

Said Church was opened for service in 1749, and called St. John's Church. It was built near Church lane, about a quarter of a mile west of the Pequonnock meeting-house. It was not finished until 1789, when it was consecrated by the Right Rev. Bishop Seabury.

This Church was taken down in the year 1801 and rebuilt at the city of Bridgeport on the corner of State and Broad streets, retaining the same name, and it being the same church that is now, in 1856, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Gurdon S. Coit. The Rev. Philo Shelton was its first pastor, who commenced his labors in 1779, and died in 1825, aged about 70 years.

The principal proprietors in building this Stratfield Church were Col. John Burr, John Holburton, Timothy Wheeler, Joseph Seeley, John Nichols, Richard Hall and Samuel Beardsley. The land on which the Church stood was opened to commons on the east side of Church lane, and contained about half an acre.

No. 55. *John Holburton*, from England, was a farmer. He had children, Thomas, William, and one daughter, who married Capt. Stephen Summers, of Cow Hill. She was the mother of one son, Stephen, who married Betsey Young, and of four daughters,—Charity, who married Capt. Wilson Hawley; Polly, who married Capt. Abijah Hawley; Grizell, who married Capt. Aaron Hawley, and Ruth, who married Mr. Nathaniel Wade.



No. C. *The Parsonage Lot*, containing three acres of land at Pequonnock, was given to the Stratfield Society by the wife of the Rev. Robert Ross, for the use and benefit of the pastor for the time being. The deeds are recorded in the Society's book, and in Fairfield and Stratford town records.

No. 56. *Samuel Cable*, a cooper by trade and inn-keeper, was a large, strong man and lived to a good old age. He had sons Samuel and William, and daughters Charity and Ann. Samuel Cable, Sen., came here from a place called Compo, near Saugatuck. He married, first, Mary Porter, of Stratford.

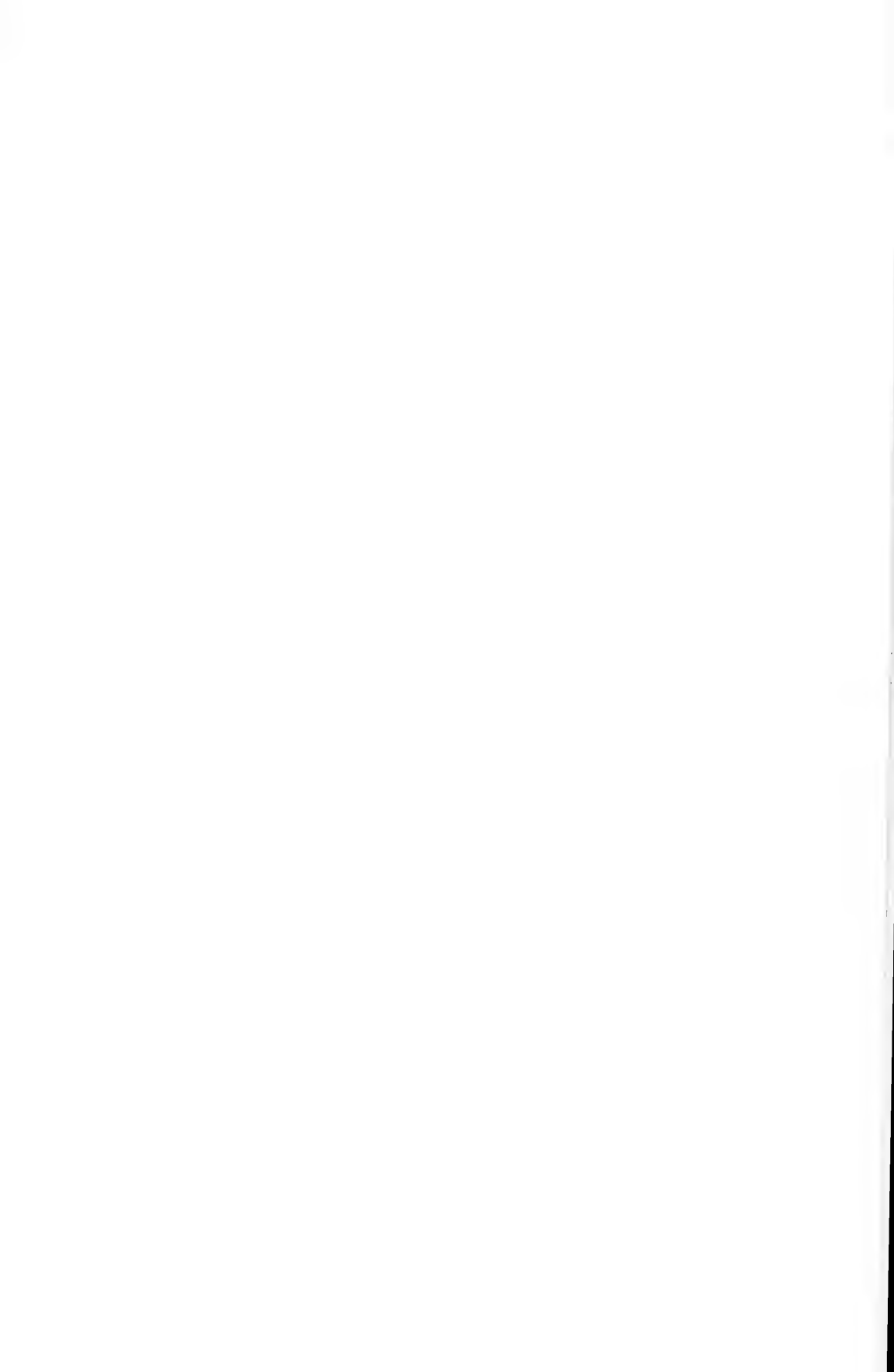
No. 57. *Sergt. Jabez Summers* was a farmer. His children were: Jabez, Jr., and Mary, who married Mr. Seth Sherman; and Alice, who never married. He was a slaveholder.

No. 58. *Abel Lewis* was by occupation a cabinet-maker, and was the father of Ichabod Lewis, who removed from the place since the Revolutionary War. There are none of his descendants now living in this parish.

No. 59. *Jacob Sterling*, an early settler, came from England, and was a ship carpenter. He came to Cape Cod, thence to Haverhill, from which place he fled at the time the Indians massacred most of the inhabitants. He went to Lyme, Conn., and came thence to this parish. My paternal grandmother was his granddaughter and the wife of David Sherman, who was killed by lightning in the old Pequonnock meeting-house in 1771.

Jacob Sterling married Mrs. Hannah (Odell) Seeley, of Fairfield. His descendants are quite numerous. He resided first at Fresh Pond.

No. 60. *Abijah Sterling, Esqr.*, son of Stephen and grandson of Jacob Sterling, No. 59, was a farmer, a public spirited man, for many years a representative to the General Assembly, and was a fine looking man,—one of nature's noblemen. He had only a common school education; was justice of the peace, and general arbitrator and peace maker in the parish. He owned a carriage, called a chaise, in the



autumn of 1776, it being without a top. He heard that my father, David Sherman and Esquire Sterling, brother of Stephen, then with the Stratfield militia company, under command of Capt. Thaddeus Bennett in the city of New York, were, with many of the company, sick and dying with dysentery, and he went after them with his carriage. He found the two sick in a barn at Harlem, Capt. Bennett having discharged them so that they might try to get home. He, like the good Samaritan, put them both into his carriage, and then led the horse until they arrived at home, where both recovered.

Lieut. Edward Burroughs of the same company and of this parish, died with the same distemper after he reached home.

No. 61. *James Hawley*, was a farmer, and a descendant of Joseph Hawley, one of the first settlers in the old town plot of Stratford. Stephen Hawley, now living in Bridgeport, is descended from him.

No. 62. *Dea. Joseph Booth* was a farmer and a leading man in the town and church. He was chosen Deacon of the Stratfield Church in 1733, and died in 1763.

No. 63. *Eliphalet Jennings* was a farmer at Fresh Pond, and lived on the place now occupied by James Porter. He married Sarah, the only daughter of Parson Ross. They have descendants now (1856), living, namely: Capt. Robert R. Jennings and James Jennings and others, children of said Captain Jennings. These are the only descendants of parson Ross.

No. 64. *Deacon Seth Sherman* was descended from Lieut. David Sherman, through Elnathan and Ebenezer Sherman, and conducted a tanning and currying business on these premises. He was Deacon of the Stratfield Congregational Church from 1799 to his death, August 7, 1807. He married Mary, daughter of Jabez Summers. His children were Anson, who married Priscilla Hoyt; Rowland, who died young, and Polly, who married ——— Southard.

The tanning and currying business was continued here a number of years by Samuel Peet and James French. The



late John Plumb, E. Allen Parrott, and Thomas Ward, Jr., were among their apprentices. The fine residence now located upon the premises was built by Eli Thompson about 1857.

No. 65. *Samuel French* was a farmer at Fresh Pond, and lived where the house of Eben French now (1856) stands. He married a daughter of Samuel Sherman, of Old Mill, and is the ancestor of all who bear the name of French in this region of country.

No. 66. *Rope Walk* of A. & W. Hawley.

No. 67. *Benoni French*, the son of Samuel French, was a farmer and lived in the house (1856) owned by Henry Olmstead. He had no sons and only one daughter, who married Freeman Lewis, the father of the late Alanson Lewis, and Mrs. Eliakim Hough.

No. 68. *District School House* at Fresh Pond.

No. 69. *Abijah Beardsley* was a farmer and blacksmith. He married Drusilla, daughter of Master Wheeler, of Toilsome Hill. She was about 90 years of age when she died. She received a pension for the services of her husband in the Revolution. They had sons Anson, Wheeler and Abijah. Abijah, Jr., when about twenty years of age went as a seaman from Bridgeport in 1805, in a brig commanded by Capt. Samuel Hawley, to Antigua, on which voyage he was taken by an English press-gang and forced on board an English man-of-war, where he was put on ship's duty for a cruise for several months, until the man-of-war returned to Antigua.

Through the aid of Sylvanus Sterling and Robert Southworth, who were then doing business there, he was liberated from the man-of-war and sent home in a brig bound for Washington, North Carolina in the month of January, 1806. I was then employed in a schooner belonging to the owner of said brig, of which schooner my brother David Sherman was master. Both vessels being at anchor at Ocracock Bar, we went on board the brig to make the captain a visit. Soon after we got on board the captain said: "I have a countryman of yours on board, I will call him and see if you know



him." Soon a poor ragged sailor boy came into the cabin, and, although we were intimate with him at home, we could not recognize him because his sufferings had been so great on the brig, they having been on allowance of a potato a day for a number of days. His joy at seeing us was very great, but still greater when we told him we would furnish him suitable clothing and give him a passage to New York. We brought him home, to the great joy of his widowed mother.

Soon after he shipped on board of a schooner belonging to the Prindles of Bridgeport, and sailed for the West Indies, which schooner was lost in a hurricane in 1806, and all on board perished.

No. 70. *Jacob Sterling's Shipyard.*

No. 71. *Charles Burritt, Jr.,* was a farmer.

No. 72. *Joel Parish* was a shoemaker. He married a sister of Maj. Aaron Hawley; had three daughters. One died with consumption, and the others removed to New Jersey.

No. 73. *Stephen Burroughs, Esqr.,* was a farmer, ship-builder, Boston coaster, ship-master, mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor—a self-made man. He was about five feet eight inches in height, strong built, was never sick during his long life, a cold water man, and died in 1817, aged 88 years. He was an active Whig in the Revolution, when he raised a militia company called Householders, of which he was chosen captain. He was often chosen representative, and was justice of the peace for many years. He owned the parish grist mill called the Burroughs mill, that stood where the Pequonnock woolen mills now stand.

He was blind for several years before his decease. It is said he invented, about the year 1798, the system of Federal Money as now used in the United States.

His children were, Stephen, Isaac, David, and Abijah, sons, one of which, Abijah, was lost at sea, and David died of a fever caught in Boston, and was buried at Martha's Vineyard, about the year 1796; and he had three daughters—Eunice, married a Pendleton, of Stratford; Betsey, married



Capt. Joseph Sterling Edwards, and Huldah married Joseph Backus, Esqr., of Bridgeport, Conn.

No. 74. *Shipyards* and store of Stephen Burroughs, well known for many years.

No. 75. *Elijah Burritt* was a blacksmith, buckskin leather dresser, cooper and farmer, and died at the advanced age of 98 years. He was six feet in height, well made, fine presence, and was never sick until the last year of his life. He had one son, Daniel, and three daughters. His first wife was the daughter of John Hall. He died, Sept. 23, 1841.

It was from him that I derived much of the information relative to the early settlers of this parish.

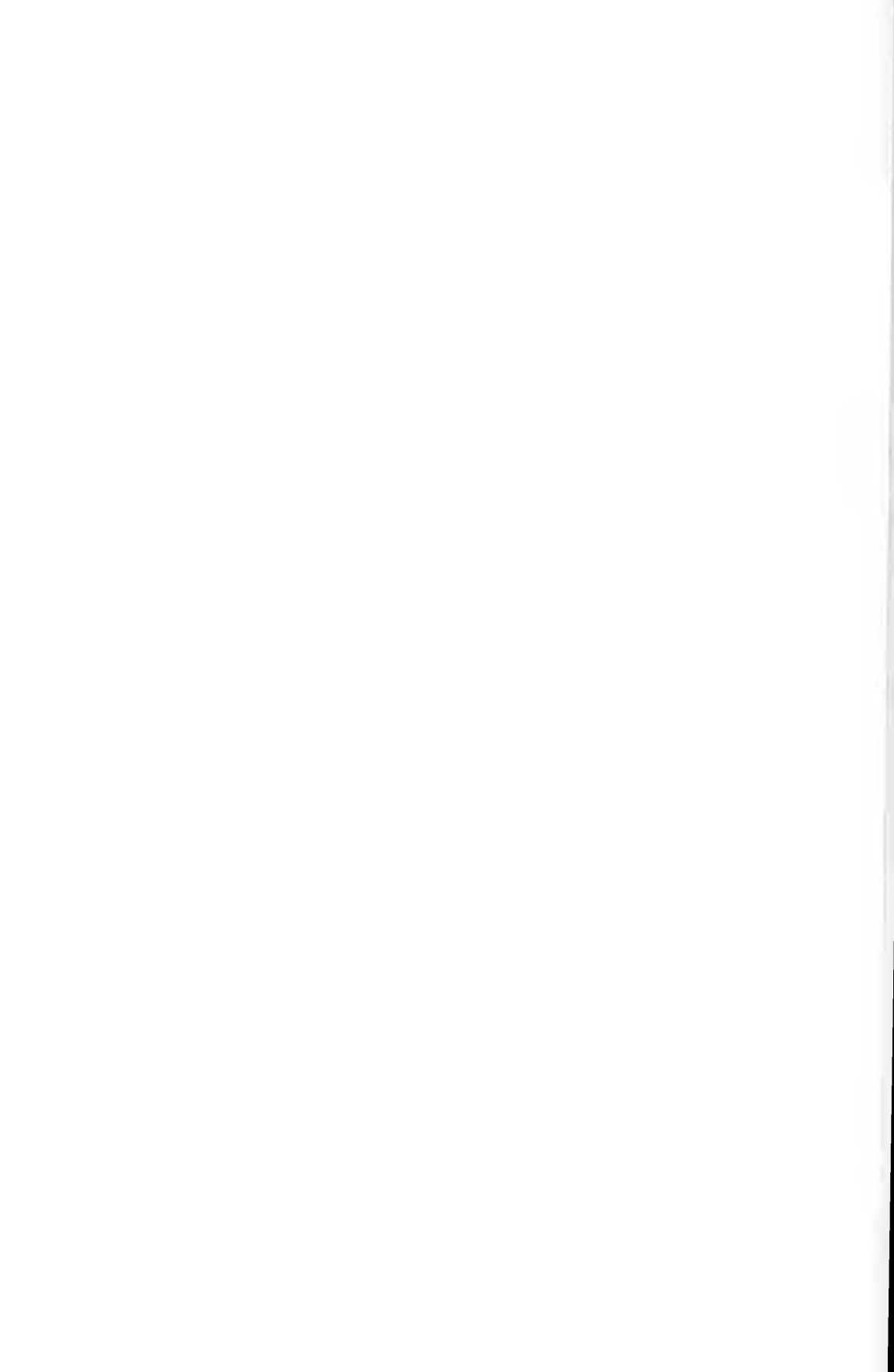
Mr. Burritt retained his faculties until the year 1840, when he failed slowly until his death. I asked him about a year before his death, if death did not appear to be very near. He replied, "Not any nearer than forty years ago;" that he had "always felt that he might die any day, but when he came to reflect that he was 97 years of age, his reason and judgment satisfied him that death must be very near.

No. 76. *The Burroughs Gristmill* of Revolutionary times. This was an old mill site, as seen on page 280 of this book, granted first to the Sherwood family.

No. 77. *Jostah Smith* was a miller at the Burroughs mill. He had one son, Josiah, and one daughter, Comfort.

No. 78. *Philip Nichols*, son of Theophilus, was born in January, 1726. Beginning business life for himself about 1747 he had twenty-five years cotemporary with his father, and they seem to have been well and advantageously improved, and after his father's decease he continued probably an active business life twenty-five years longer, dying in 1807, in his 82d year.

While his father thought that Newpasture Point would develope into a city and shipping place, Philip inclined to the opinion that the west side of the harbor would first become a city, and therefore made considerable purchases of land where now much of the business portion of the city of Bridgeport



stands, which investments furnished his children with considerable valuable property.

His dwelling was at No. 78, on the map at the corner of the roads, and a large portion of his business life was connected with the brick store and shipyard near the house on the shore. The shipping trade of Bridgeport was first developed at that place on the Pequonnock river, and afterwards came down gradually to its present localities.

Philip Nichols was a prominent communicant of the Episcopal Church at Stratford. The parish book shows the following record:

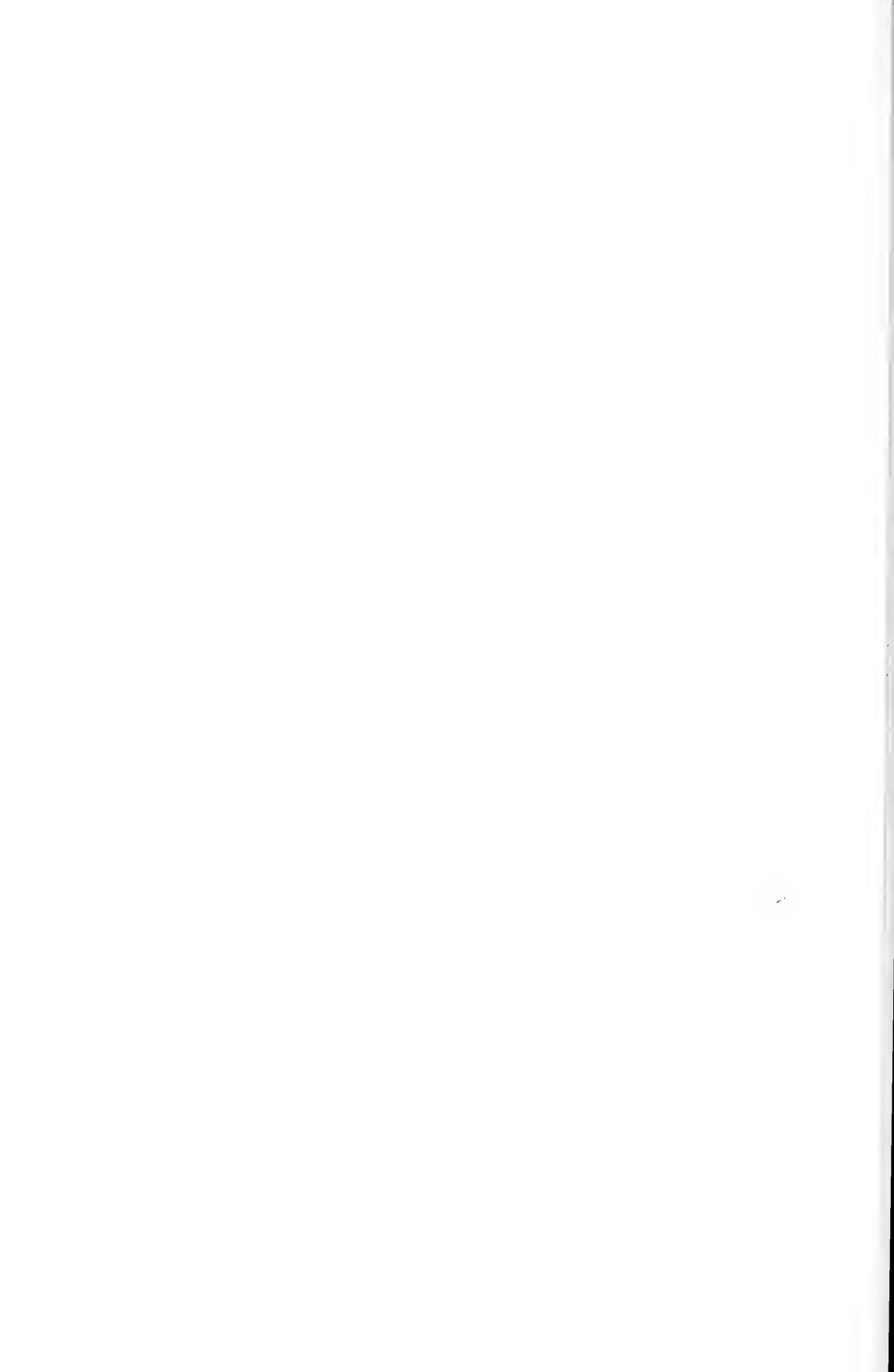
"At a parish meeting of Christ Church, Stratford, held Easter Monday, April 20, 1772, it was voted that the pew next to the pulpit be given to Captain Philip Nichols, he building the Christening Pew."

His descendants were prominent in the community and other parts of the country, many years.

No. 79. John Peet appears to have owned this place in 1694, according to the land records, with perhaps a dwelling on it, but considerable portion of Mr. Peet's land at this place was purchased by Richard or Theophilus Nichols, and in the inventory of the latter's estate it is called "Captain Peat's lot;" twenty-three acres being valued at £126-10.

No. 80. William Pixlee, son of William of Hadley, Massachusetts; was born June 27, 1669; came to Stratford when twenty-one years of age and purchased his first land of Abraham Mitchell, three acres, at what is now the southwestern corner of Old Mill Green, on the 21st day of April, 1690. He continued to buy land in that vicinity, almost yearly, so that in twelve years he had about fifty acres, besides pieces in other parts of the town. One piece that he purchased, in 1694, adjoining his own land, was bounded "on the south with the trench that dreans the pond, and on the east with the pond." This shows that an effort had been made at that early day, to drain that pond.

William Pixlee married Grace, daughter of David Mitchell, in November, 1701, when he had a good farm and home of his own. He had two sons, Peter and David, the



latter died in 1742, aged 38 years. Peter occupied the homestead with his mother as long as she lived, probably, and he, after having been a prominent and influential citizen, died in 1788, aged 85 years.

William Pixlee, the father, died in the early part of the year 1712, the inventory of his property being taken March 17, 1712, to which his widow made oath April 2, 1712.

Peter Pixlee, the son, had a son William who lived on the old homestead, and was the first to receive liberty from the town to build a mill at what is now known as the Berkshire Mills.⁹ He was a prominent business man of the town.

No. 81. Richard Nichols, son of Isaac, Jr., grandson of Isaac, Sen., and great-grandson of Francis Nichols, the first of the name at Stratford, was born at Stratford, November 26, 1678, and was twelve years of age when his father died, after which his mother and her three sons removed to, and resided at, Newtown, L. I.

Richard seems to have returned to Stratford about the year 1700, and on June 2, 1702, married Comfort, daughter of Theophilus Sherman.¹⁰

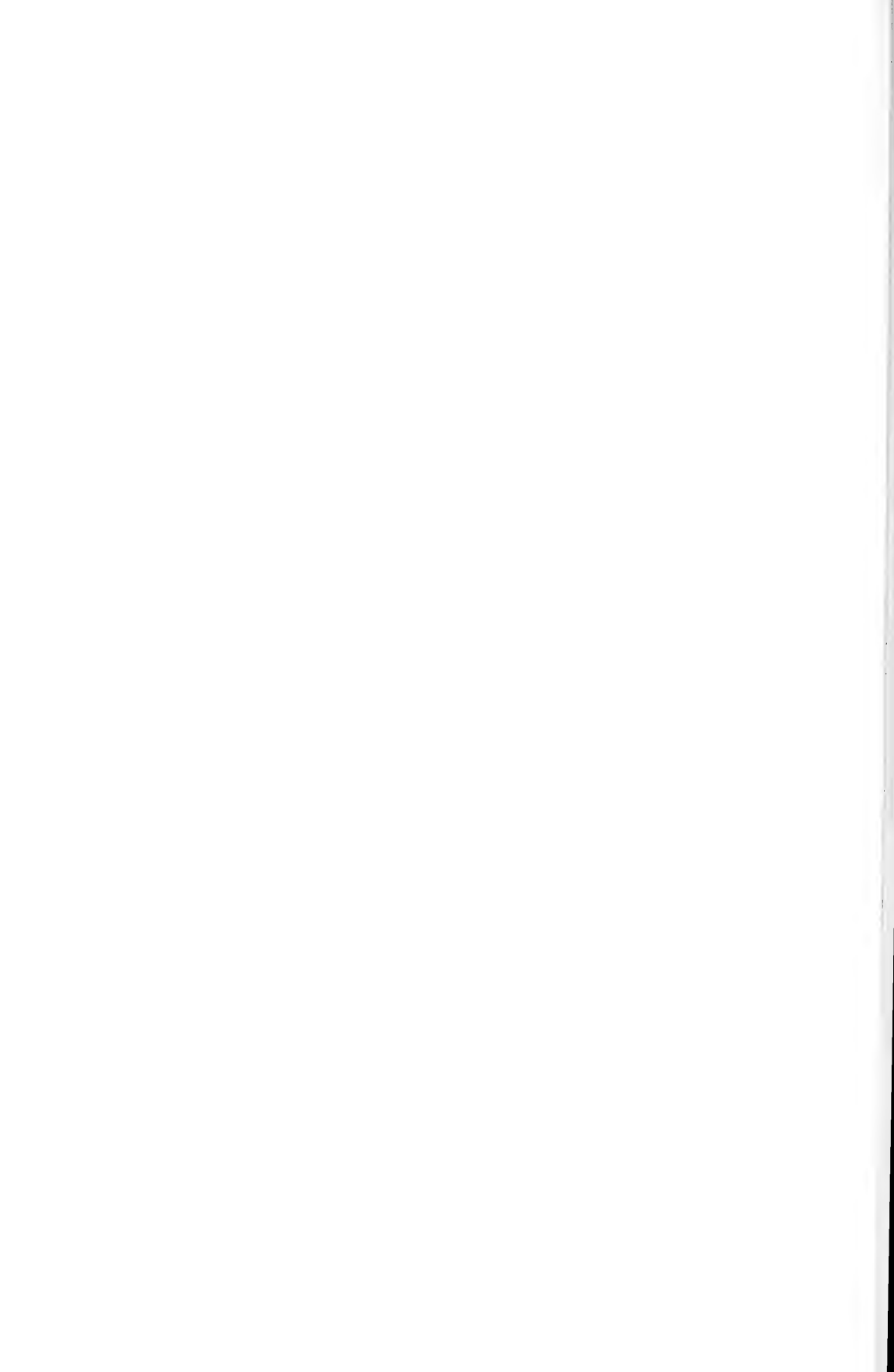
Richard Nichols purchased land at Old Mill Green as early as the spring of 1710, and thereafter for several years he purchased land almost yearly in the same vicinity.

A number of settlers had been living at Old Mill from thirty to forty years when Richard Nichols came there, namely: Samuel Sherman, Jr., Benjamin Sherman, John Hurd, John Peet, and Samuel Blakeman's family.

His home was established on what is now the corner of Old Mill Green and East Main street, where he resided until his death in 1756, in his 78th year. Mr. Nichols was a prominent man in the first ecclesiastical society in the town. In the building of the third meeting-house, in 1743, he was one with Captain Robert Walker and David Porter as committee, to secure a committee from the General Court to select the site for that house. He was engaged frequently in the settlement of the estates of deceased persons.

⁹ See page 405 of the History of Old Stratford.

¹⁰ This relation is proved by a deed in which the fact is stated (see genealogy).



He was the leading man, apparently, in securing to the public generally the wide street called Old Mill Green, called at that day Pembroke street, and to him and those associated with him in that public enterprise, the people, and especially those of the City of Bridgeport, will ever be grateful.¹¹

In his will, dated September 25, 1755, and proved fourteen days after, he gave his homestead to his son Joseph, containing about thirty-five acres, "with buildings, and the remainder of my pasture lot nigh to John Hurd's homestead, and all my lot of land at Daniel's Farm, southward of the Park, about twenty-five acres, also the whole of my lot of wood land at Ireland's Brook, about six acres."

He says further: "I give to my son Nathaniel Nichols, one piece of land that I purchased of Jabez Beardslee, lying northward of Totocock (so called) in the bounds of said Stratford.

¹¹ *Sequestered Land for Pembroke Street.*

"Know all men by these presents, that we, Richard Nichols, Nathaniel Sherman, Samuel Judson, Peter Pixlee, Ebenezer Hurd, Theophilus Nichols, Samuel Shearman, Timothy Shearman and Joseph Nichols, all of the town of Stratford in the County of Fairfield, for and in consideration of the love and good will we have for the town of Stratford and the inhabitants thereof, and in order to preserve the common good thereof, said town being the land of our nativity and the inhabitants the first of our acquaintance here on earth, We do give, grant, make over and confirm unto Mr. Benjamin Sherman of the said town of Stratford and to their successors, inhabitants of said town forever, a certain tract of land being and lying in said Stratford township in Pembroke street so called, containing in quantity about six acres of land, little more or less, and it is butted and bounded on all points with common land as may appear by the survey bill thereof on Stratford records, for him the said Benjamin Shearman and the rest of the said inhabitants of the said town of Stratford:—To have and to hold the above described tract of land to be and lye a perpetual common to and for the use of them their successors throughout all generations to the end of time.

Affirming at the time of this grant we are well seized of the premises and have in ourselves full power to grant the same as in manner above expressed and that our true intent is, the same should be for a common use of all the Inhabitants of the town of Stratford and their successors forever, never to be severed in any manner whatsoever. To confirm all above written promises We have hereunto set our hands and seals this 25th day of November, A. D. 1740:

"Richard Nichols, Nathaniel Shearman, Samuel Judson, Peter Pixlee, Ebenezer Hurd, Theoph^s Nichols, Samuel Shearman, Timothy Shearman, Joseph Nichols."



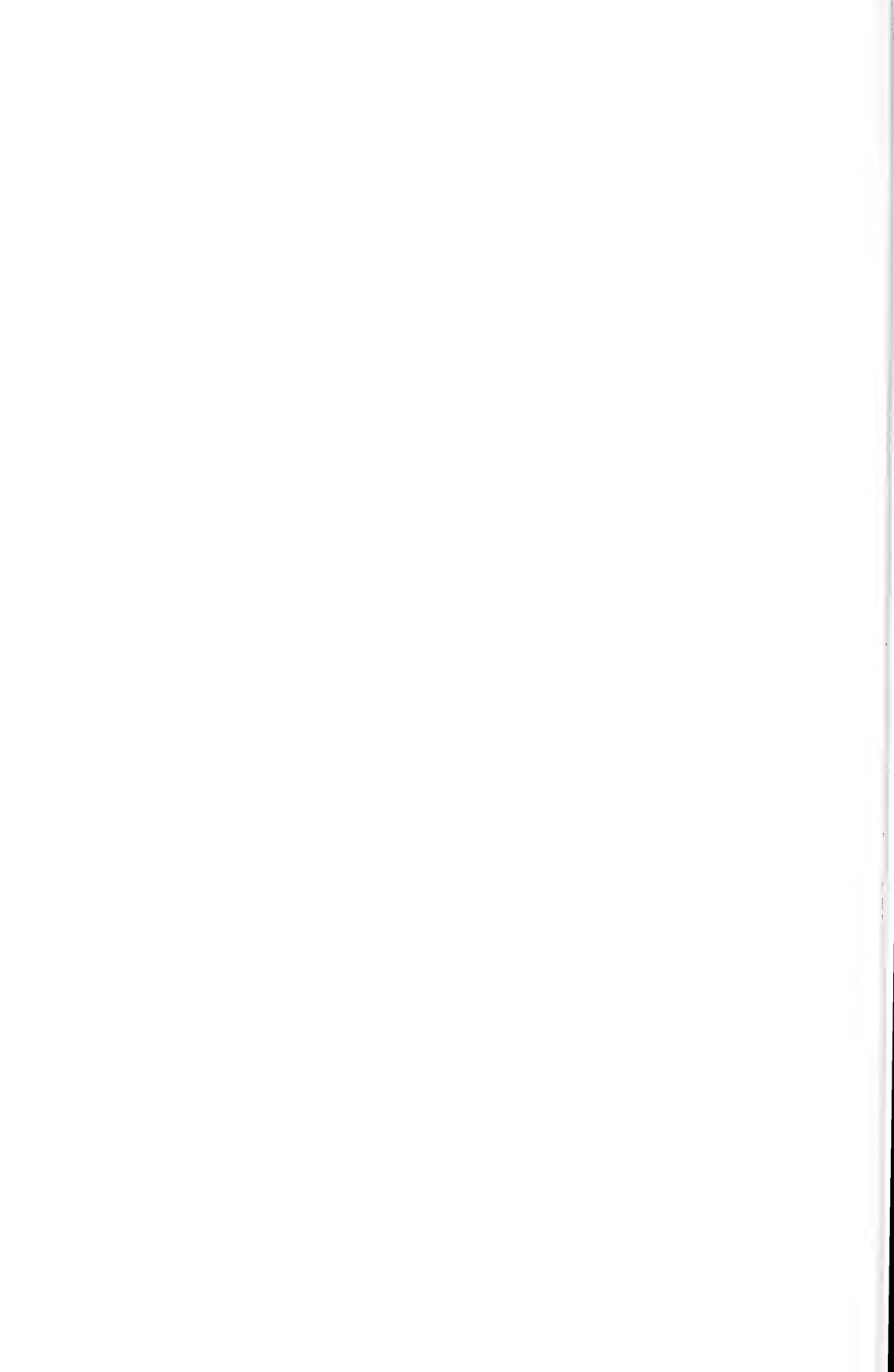
No. 82. *John Judson* was the owner of this place and perhaps residing on it in 1702, according to a deed received by William Pixlee and given by Nathaniel Sherman, of the land lying between it and the road on the west side of it.

No. 83. *Theophilus Nichols, Esq.*, son of Richard Nichols, was born, March 31, 1703. He married, January 1723-4, Sarah, daughter of Lt. Ebenezer Curtiss, and settled on the north side of the street nearly opposite his father's residence, where he resided until his decease in 1774. This home was held by the Nichols family until 1807, then by the Judson family of that locality.

His father, doubtless, gave him the land for his homestead when he was married, and he became a prosperous farmer. He also engaged in ship building and mercantile business to a considerable extent, probably, before as well as after his father's decease in 1756, but in his father's will there is no mention of stores or shipyard. In that will the father gave to Theophilus, with other pieces of land, "one lot in Newpasture Field called Gaspin's Point, about twenty-four acres." In the inventory of the estate of Theophilus, dated May 23, 1774, this property is mentioned, thus: "twelve acres of land on the north end of the point lot £93-10," and "three acres of land in do. with the house, store and wharf, £190." This indicates that within eighteen years he had built the house, store and wharf, at what is now the south end of Pembroke street. In the same inventory is mentioned, "three rods of land and the brick house, and shipyard adjoining," and "one acre of land adjoining on the south side." This was previously the Sterling shipyard.

This shipyard may have been the property of Theophilus before his father's death. The inventory mentions also, "the one-eighth part of a schooner, the *President*, £25," and £150 worth of merchandise.

Besides his business life Theophilus Nichols was a public servant and honored citizen. He was a deputy to the General Assembly twenty-three years; was a captain of the militia a number of years and a justice of the peace a number of years near the close of his life.



In 1745, at the time of the Great Revival in the Congregational Churches, he united with the Episcopal Church, and thereafter rendered great service to that cause. Also, the Probate records of Fairfield show that he was often selected by private individuals and appointed by the Court to the service of executor and overseer of wills and estates.

He died in 1774, aged 71 years.

No. 84. *John Fulsom*, son of Samuel, of Stratford, was a blacksmith and carried on his trade a number of years at this place. He died about 1815, and the house becoming old was pulled down.

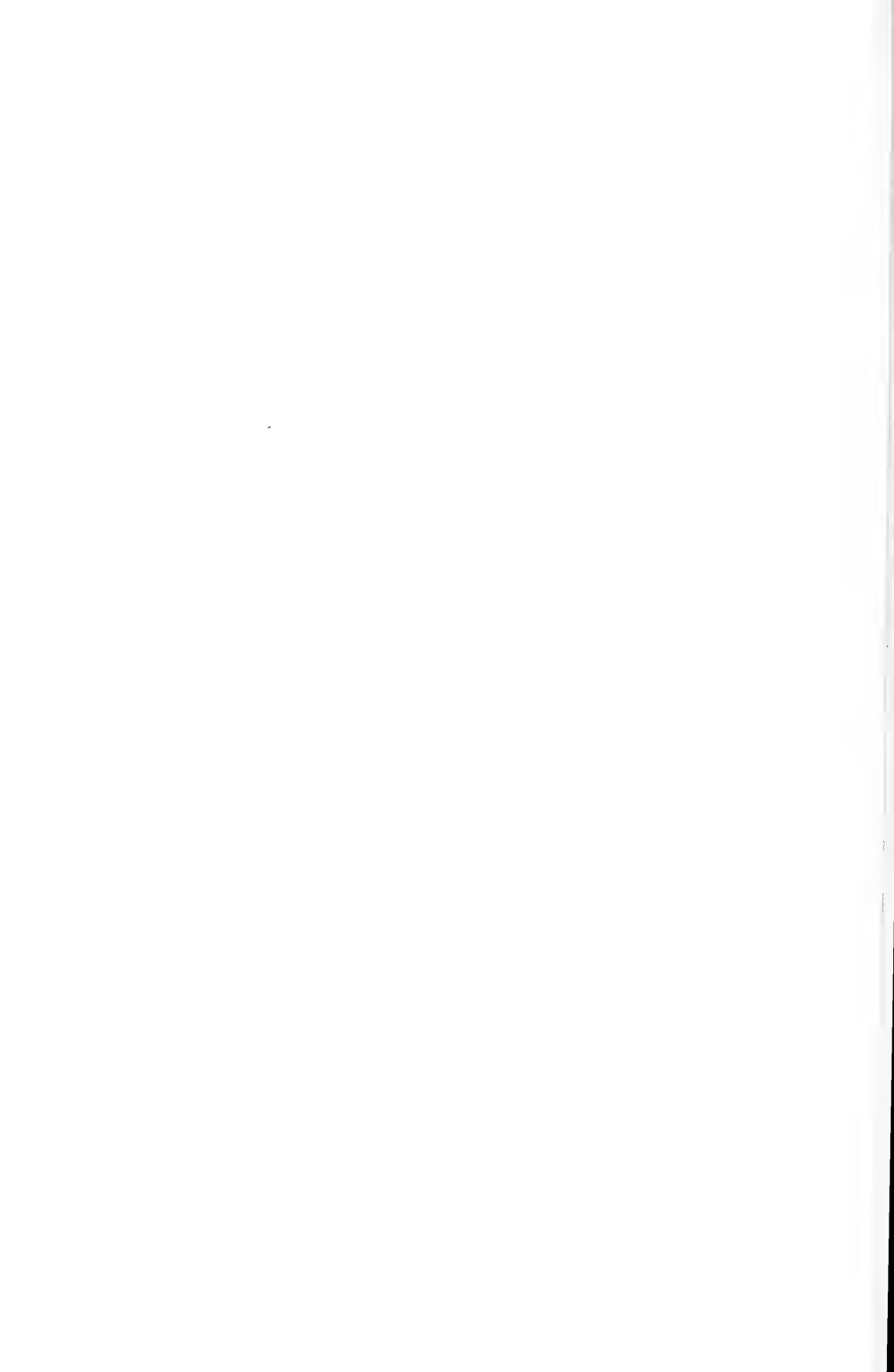
No. 85. *Samuel Sherman, Jr.*, was the first settler at this place on Old Mill Green, as far as can be ascertained. In 1663, Samuel Sherman, Sen., purchased James Blakeman's half of the mill property at this place, which comprised twenty acres of upland and several acres of meadow, while Samuel Blakeman owned the other half, of an equal number of acres. In 1680, Samuel Sherman, Jr., received this land by gift from his father, but probably had resided on it a number of years before that date, perhaps from 1663.

The highway, now called Pembroke street, began at Mr. Sherman's house, with a gate in the common fence on the south side of the Green. This road after having been used seventy years or more, was re-surveyed in 1749, by Theophilus Nichols and others, as Proprietors' committee, down to the point, and made "full three rods wide."

Stiles Lewis and his son after him, owned this place many years. The frame of the old house still stands, but the covering has been renewed, perhaps, more than once, and the exterior much changed. The father kept a tavern here, and the north front room is said to have been occupied by Washington while on one of his trips through the country.

The son sold the place to Benjamin Stillman and removed to New York.

No. 86. *Samuel Blakeman*, probably resided here, he having purchased of his brother James in 1662, half of the mill property, including twenty acres of farming land besides meadow; and he died in 1668. His widow married



Jacob Walker. The other half of the mill property was purchased by Samuel Sherman, Sen., in 1663, as represented in No. 85.

No. 87. Stephen Burritt; his descendants are all gone.

No. 87^a. The Hurd Place. This land, including No. 87, was originally laid out to John Hurd, Sen., and by his will bequeathed to his son Isaac, who seems to have died, leaving no children, and the property descended apparently to his brother John and his children, according to his father's will, and it was the Hurd homestead for several generations.

Ebenezer Hurd, son of John 2d, as above, resided on this farm probably nearly all his life, being born April 7, 1703. He became a widely known person according to the following: "This same year (1775), Ebenezer Hurd,"¹² a regular post rider, closed a service of forty-eight years, having begun it in 1727. Once in a fortnight, during that entire period, he had made a journey from New York to Saybrook and back, 274 miles. In other words—for such is the computation—during those forty eight years he had traveled over as much space as twelve and a half times around the world, or as far as to the moon and half-way back. Meantime, what of the wife? Bringing up the children, managing the farm and during one year at least, 1767, spinning not less than five hundred yards of wool and flax, all raised on the place, making and mending, especially for that indefatigable rider, who was doubtless "hard on his clothes."

This Ebenezer Hurd married in January, 1732, Abigail Hubbell, and they had fifteen children. Their gravestone stands in Huntington burying place, both inscriptions being on one stone. They are:

"Mr. Ebenezer Hurd, died May 7, 1788, aged 87 years.

Mrs. Rebecca, His Wife, died April 16, 1783, Aged — years."

One of the sons was Ebenezer, Jr., who was also a post rider, according to the following: "The 28th of November,

¹² Magazine of American History, by Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, 1885, page 118.

died at Stratford, in Connecticut, of a short illness, Mrs. Elizabeth Hurd, wife of Ebenezer Hurd, Jun., Post Rider of that Place, aged 24 Years and three Months; Her Death is greatly lamented by all her Relations. She was the daughter of the Rev. Christopher Newton, of Stratford.¹³

Andrew Hurd, eldest son of the first Ebenezer, and born in 1731, was also a post rider, and resided on the homestead on Old Mill Green until his death, April 29, 1819, aged 89 years. He is still remembered, and tradition says he used to call out when he was to stop, "Open the gate for the King's Post."

From these last items it is probable that the sons often rode post in place of their father.

No. 88. *Site of the Old Mill*, built in 1652 and 3, and from which Old Mill Hill and Old Mill Green take their names.

No. 89. *Sergt. Charles Burritt* was a descendant of Stephen Burritt of Stratford, the celebrated Indian fighter in King Philip's War, and the ancestor of the Hon. Elihu Burritt, the Learned Blacksmith.

No. 90. *Dea. Thomas Hawley* was a farmer and a descendant of Joseph, the first of the name in Stratford; through Samuel the eldest son. Most of the Hawleys of this parish are his descendants. He was chosen deacon of the Stratfield church in 1712, and died in 1722, aged 44 years. His son, Captain Ezra Hawley, seems to have succeeded him on the paternal homestead, and also his grandson, Ezra Hawley, Jr. Among the sons of the last was Wilson, a well known and leading farmer and merchant of this place; and Abram, who married Alice Burton of Trumbull, settled in Waterbury, and had, among other children, George B., a distinguished physician and public spirited citizen of Hartford, Connecticut.

No. 91. *Gurdon Hawley* was a farmer, a descendant of Dea. Thomas Hawley, through Captain Ezra and Ezra, Jr.

¹³ Magazine of American History, 1885, page 206; taken from Rivington's N. Y. Gazetteer, Dec. 15, 1774.





G. B. Hawley



George Benjamin Hawley, M. D., the son of Abraham and Alice (Burton) Hawley, was born in Bridgeport, February 13, 1812.

While he was yet an infant his parents removed to Watertown, Conn., where he spent his boyhood on his father's farm. He fitted for college at Goshen Academy, entered Yale College in 1829, and was graduated in 1833. He also studied medicine at Yale and received his diploma as an M. D. in 1836. After some preliminary work and practice he in 1840 settled down to the regular practice of his profession in Hartford, which he continued successfully over forty years.

He was a man of prodigious nervous energy and physical endurance, which were brought into full play in the practice of his chosen profession, and in many other interests and objects of a business and philanthropic nature.

The Hartford Hospital and the more recent Old People's Home of Hartford owe their inception and success more to Dr. Hawley than to any other man. He was interested in the local corporations and enterprises of Hartford—to the success of which he contributed in large degree. The woven wire mattress he viewed in a sanitary light, and overcoming some of the earlier defects, brought it to a high state of perfection and great pecuniary success. He became interested in the mechanical setting and distributing of type, and for twenty years devoted much time and money to its development. He was President of the Farnham Type-Setting Machine Company, which finally adopted the Page machine, and which, under his fostering interest and efforts, has been brought to a surprising state of practical efficiency. He did not live (as he hoped) to see it manufactured and in use in the large printing establishments in the country.

Dr. Hawley died April 18, 1883. He was twice married and left a widow and one son (by his first wife), Dr. George Fuller Hawley, now of Chicago.

Gurdon married Ann, daughter of Thomas, his father's brother. They had one son, Anson, who married Fanny, daughter of Dea. David Sherwood, a daughter Eliza, who married Isaac E. Beach.

No. 92. Captain Stephen Summers was a farmer and Boston coaster. He had an only son, Stephen, and daughters, Charity, Grizzell, Polly and Ruth. Stephen, Jr., was master of the brig William, bound from Bridgeport to New Providence. She sailed in November, 1810, and was lost at sea and all on board perished.

No. 93. Daniel Summers was a farmer.

No. 94. James Gregory was a farmer; married Philena Burritt, and removed, about 1808, to Kentucky.

No. 95. Dea. Lemuel Sherwood, son of Matthew, and born about 1687, was a farmer. He was chosen deacon of the Stratfield church in 1722, and served until his death in 1732. His father, Matthew, is represented in the Communion set of the first Congregational Church by a cup, the oldest piece in the set, inscribed as given in 1713.

Dea. David Sherwood, a descendant of Matthew, through Samuel, John and Stephen, purchased this farm owned by Dea. Lemuel one hundred years before, consisting of one hundred acres, in 1830. He was chosen deacon of the First Church, in 1831, and served about twenty-five years. He died January 24, 1873, at the age of 94 years.

He cultivated and kept his farm nearly intact until his decease. The population and improvements had so surrounded him, that his land had become very valuable. He died with the impression that he was very rich. The land has been mostly sold, streets have been laid over it, and these acres are covered with manufactures, stores and fine residences; and a teeming, busy, population, with a school house and chapels.

No. 96. Colonel John Burr was a farmer, an early settler and a leading man in building the first Episcopal Church. His farm is the same that Polly Burr, a grand-



daughter, now owns. His ancestor, Colonel John Burr, of the same name, held a meeting with the Indians under a large oak tree near to where he built his house, which tree is now standing (1856), but has marks of old age in its branches. It was evidently a large tree when the parish was first settled. Thirty years ago (1826) it was green and flourishing.

He had sons, William, Ozias, who died at the age of 98 years, and Captain John Burr, who was killed by lightning in 1771.

No. 97. Watrous Hubbell was a farmer, and resided at the place now occupied by the descendants of the Rev. Philo Shelton. Some of his descendants are now living in Bridgeport. Gershom E. Hubbell is a grandson, and the children of David Hubbell, 3d, Elbert E. and George Hubbell, are great-grandchildren of the said Watrous Hubbell.

No. 98. Captain Amos Hubbell was a farmer, Boston coaster, a West India trader and an active Whig in the Revolution, as were also all his brothers and nephews. He was a merchant at Newfield, now Bridgeport. Soon after the Revolution he built the wharf near the foot of Bank street, and was the first Warden of the Borough of Bridgeport—a man much respected.

He had one ship and two brigs built for himself, but his commercial business was not generally successful.

About the year 1798, while France and the United States were at war, Captain Wilson Hubbell, a son of Captain Amos, while on a voyage homeward bound from the West Indies, was taken by a French privateer, who took out William Cable, his mate, and one seaman, leaving Captain Wilson Hubbell with Samuel Cable, seaman, and Josiah Burr, the cook, on board. The privateer then put on board of Captain Hubbell's sloop a prize master and two French seamen.

After the privateer had left, the weather being moderate, Samuel Cable was put at the helm and the sloop was left by the French Prize Master to the care of the two French seamen. When the Prize Master went into the cabin and lay down, having laid his sword and pistols by him, as soon as he

was asleep Captain Hubbell secured his arms and locked him in the cabin. He then secured the two French sailors and confined them. He now secured his money, which was in gold, in his silk handkerchief tied around his body unknown to the Prize Master.

He then unwisely held a parley with the cunning Frenchman, who made him such fair promises of his good behavior that Captain Hubbell allowed him to come on deck and to have his liberty. The Frenchman having won his confidence, he sat down with him on the quarter-rail to smoke. When the Frenchman dropped his cigar between Captain Hubbell's feet and reached down and took it up; he continued his French palaver, but soon dropped it again, and, stooping down again to pick it up, he caught Captain Hubbell by his feet and threw him overboard head foremost. The sea was calm, and when he came up he swam after the sloop, begging for his life, but the cruel Frenchman was deaf to his cry and let him drown with his gold about him.

Captain Amos Hubbell had four sons, Captain Wilson and Amos, Jr., who both died young; Anson, and also Charles B. Hubbell, who is now President of the Pequonnock Bank. He had one daughter, Catharine, who married Captain Ezekiel Hubbell, formerly President of the Connecticut Bank.

No. 99. Richard Hubbell, Sen., an early settler at Pequonnock, was a cooper and farmer. He was supposed to have emigrated to this country from the county of Essex in England about the year 1670. He had one son, Richard, and they were two of the nine male members of the first Congregational Church at its organization.

Richard, a grandson, occupied the homestead, and died at the advanced age of 93 years. He was a deacon in this church when it was under the pastoral care of the Rev. Samuel Cooke and the Rev. Robert Ross, for thirty years. He lived with his wife, who survived him, about 63 years. He gave the church a silver tankard for communion service, which is still in use in this church. He had sons, Richard, Amos, Hezekiah, Watrous and Benjamin, and one daughter, who married Edward Burroughs. He died in 1788.



No. 100. *Richard Hubbell, 3d*, was a farmer and a merchant at Newfield, and died in the city of New York about the year 1830, aged about 94 years. He formerly resided in the parish of Stratfield, where Joseph Banks, Esq., now resides. He married a sister of Elijah Burritt. Their children were: Richard, Philo and Eli, and Pamela, who married Captain Whitmore; Polly, who married Asa Hurd, of Old Mill, and Penelope, who never married, and is now living in the city of New York at the advanced age of about 90 years.

No. 101. *Captain John Burr* was a farmer, and the son of Colonel John Burr, who is described under No. 74.

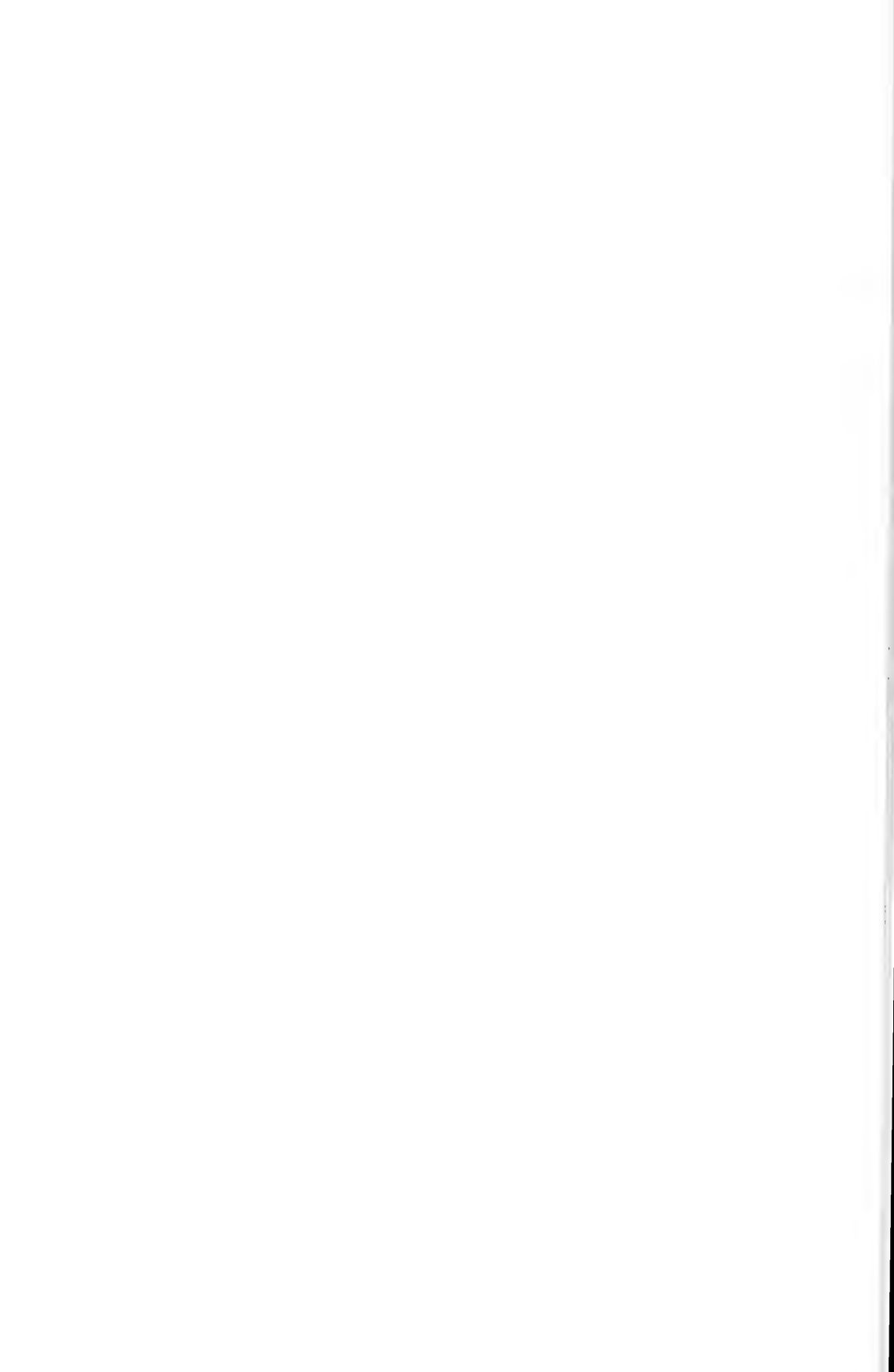
Captain Burr was killed by lightning in the meeting house in 1771, at the same time my grandfather, David Sherman was killed, as described under No. 27.

His children were: Jesse, Eunice, who married William Holburton, and Katy, who married John Duncombe. Eunice was a small, black-eyed woman, and died at the age of 88 years. She drew a pension for the services of her husband in the Revolutionary war.

No. 102. *Training Ground.* In 1703, the Stratfield Train-band was organized, and David Sherman appointed its Ensign. The next year John Beardsley, of Stratford, was confirmed its Captain, and James Bennett, of Fairfield, its Lieutenant.

It has been current tradition that this plot at the corner of the King's highway (North avenue) and the highway leading to Truck street, was donated for this purpose by the first Richard Hubbell or one of his immediate descendants. It seems to have been in use for training down to, and perhaps after, the Revolution.

On a certain training day, among the spectators present was a party of Indians, who had been behaving insolently, and one of them, a burly, athletic fellow, finally challenged the whites to choose their best man, and he would defeat him in a wrestling match. No one appeared ready to meet the challenge of the Indian, whose muscular frame plainly showed him to be a formidable antagonist, although all felt it import-



ant, for the moral effect, that some one should do it. After some deliberation it was decided that Captain John Sherwood was the only man able to vanquish him, but doubts were expressed whether he would be willing to engage in a wrestling match now that he had become so active in religious matters. A deputation came to him as he was drilling his men upon the parade ground, and after hearing their story he briefly answered that his present duty was to drill his company, but that afterward he would attend to the matter.

When the parade was over and he had laid aside his regimentals, he approached the Indian champion, who was naked to his waist and shining with grease. This was decidedly to the advantage of the native, since it gave his antagonist a small chance to grasp the well oiled skin, while his opponent, dressed in ordinary clothing, presented a fair opportunity for the grasp of the savage.

Captain Sherwood advanced without any skirmishing, and laying his hand on the naked shoulder of the Indian, found himself able to get a good grip on the skin and flesh, then exerting his great strength, at once laid his antagonist flat upon his back, not caring to soften the violence of the fall, to the utter astonishment of the Indian allies. The victory was complete, confessed, and the natives withdrew quietly and never repeated the challenge.

No. 103. *The Old Stratfield Burial Ground* seems to have been laid out on the Black Rock road. The first burials were made upon the high ground, now the central part of the plot, which appears to have been quite fully occupied. There are numerous field stones which mark the places of interments, many of them being marked only with initial letters, date and age, and others with initials roughly cut. These dates run from 1688 to 1712.

About the oldest slate stones of the stereotyped pattern, fully inscribed, are those of Rev. Charles Chauncey, 1714, and Captain Matthew Sherwood, 1715. The ground was undoubtedly regarded as the property of the parish, for on December 29, 1772, an addition of one-half of an acre was made on the southeastern side, extending to the Training ground, securing a new entrance. This addition was purchased by the



Stratfield society, of Daniel Morris, for nine pounds ten shillings, lawful money, and the deed was recorded in the society's book and also on the land records of Fairfield. This portion is very fully occupied.

These grounds have been very little used since the year 1812, and were for many years very much neglected. For more than sixty years the society has not exercised any special supervision over it.

About 1848, a picket fence was constructed around it under the auspices of the late Isaac Sherman. A small fund remained in the hands of Mr. Wilson of Fairfield, at the time of the annexation of contiguous Fairfield territory to Bridgeport in 1871, and at a subsequent town meeting of Bridgeport, Sherwood Sterling, Joseph Banks and Albert Wilson were appointed a committee for the care of the ground. No money was appropriated and little care bestowed. Mr. Sterling and Mr. Banks died and Mr. Wilson became very infirm. The present committee having it in charge are Rowland B. Lacey, Henry R. Parrott and Daniel G. Fowler, who were appointed by the town meeting.

The present improved condition of this ground, which is very decided, is due to the persevering labors and oversight of Dea. R. B. Lacey, during a number of years past, and if his attention and efforts are aided by others, a few years more it will be a comely place for burial as well as visitation.

No. 104. *James Morris* was an early settler, a farmer and an innkeeper. None of his descendants are known to be living.

No. 105. *Nathan Seeley*, a son of Dea. Seth Seeley, a merchant and farmer removed to Bethel, where he died at a good old age. His descendants are living in Bethel and Danbury.

Nathan Seeley, when a young man, was a constable in Stratfield parish and had a writ to serve for a debt; and the law was at that time, such that the person on whom a writ was served must be touched with the paper to make the arrest legal. He rode a large, powerful horse, and found his man loading his cart with manure with a pitchfork. He told the



constable to keep away and kept the fork raised for his defence. Upon this said Nathan put spurs to his horse and made him jump on the man so that he touched him with the writ. After having done that he had the power to call out the militia to make the arrest complete.

Nathan Seeley married Hannah, daughter of Major Aaron Hawley of Bridgeport.

No. 106. Dea. Seth Seeley was a farmer and for many years a deacon of the parish church. His children were: Nathan, Seth, Jr., and Samuel O. The last now occupies the homestead. Dea. Seeley married a daughter of Samuel Odell, Esq.; was an active Whig in the Revolution, and an old man at the time of his death.

No. 107. Capt. Josiah Lacey, a house joiner by trade. He was commissioned in 1777 by Governor John Hancock to raise a company for the Continental Army. This he did in the parish and was its captain for three years. The company was attached to Col. Philip Bradley's Regiment in Gen. Huntington's Brigade. His residence before the Revolution was on Truck street, whence he removed to the city of Bridgeport, where he built a house—now No. 237—on the south side of State street. He was a justice of the peace for many years, and died in the year 1812, in the 67th year of his age.

He had sons Winthrop who was lost at sea, and Josiah, who died young. His daughters were Chloe, who married Capt. Nathaniel Silliman, and Polly, who married Matthew Curtis, Esqr.

No. 108. John Lacey, son of John and grandson of Edward and Sarah Lacey, was baptized by Rev. Charles Chauncey, Oct. 22, 1710. He married Mary, daughter of Daniel Hubbell, and lived upon what is understood to have been the original homestead of the family, on the corner of Truck street and one of the cross roads leading to Toilsome Hill. The first settler is said to have come from Nottingham, England.

The family first appears upon the records of the Church of Christ in Fairfield, January 13, 1694, when Sarah, wife of Edward Lacey, was admitted as a member. June 20, 1694,



their six children were baptized—viz: Edward, John, Henry, Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth. This John of the second generation died in 1754. His will was dated May 30, 1754, and mentions the following children: John, Edward, David, Ephraim, Eunice, Sarah.

John, of the 3d generation, whose name heads this article, appears on the Stratfield Parish records in 1759 and 1760, as one of the Society's Committee and is there called John Lacey, Jr. He died Feb. 10, 1793, in his 84th year. His wife Mary survived him seventeen years, and died April 1, 1810, aged 91 years. She was an excellent woman and is spoken of as "a mother in Israel."

No. 109. Capt. Daniel Lacey, son of John, No. 108, was captain over all the companies of Guards, stationed during the Revolution, from Division street to Saugatuck river. He succeeded Capt. Nash, who first commanded the same.

His children were John, Daniel, who settled out West, Michael, Squire, and Sarah, who married Seeley Sherwood. His mother was the widow Mary Lacey, who resided in the old first homestead of the first settler in the parish by the name of Lacey.

John and Michael settled at what was known as Lacey's mill, but more recently at Plattville on the Easton Turnpike, and their remains, with those of their brother Squire Lacey, rest in the old Stratfield burial-ground.

Daniel went West. The daughter Sarah, who married Seeley Sherwood, lived on the old road a little north of the Stratfield Baptist meeting-house.

No. 110. Joseph Brothwell was a shoemaker from Scotland. He came to Stratfield about 1750 and had his residence at Truck street on the west side of the highway opposite No. 105 on the map, and there reared his family of four sons and three daughters. He was a strong Presbyterian and Revolutionary Whig. He married Hannah Fayerweather, a sister of Benjamin. Their sons were Benjamin, Joseph Fayerweather, William and Thomas, who all lived to old age; and daughters, Betty who married John Hubbell, whose residence was on Division street, Grizel and Abigail.



Joseph F. Brothwell married a daughter of Benjamin Lacey, and removed to Woodbury, Conn., about the year 1798.

Joseph Brothwell was an active member of the parish when Mr. Ross was first settled, and to show the character of the man I will relate the following anecdote.

He was chosen Lieutenant of a company of militia called the Householders, and was a terror to the Tories. On a certain occasion when the heroes of the Revolution were gathered at Nichols' tavern, he pulled out his sword from its sheath and threw it down on the table—"There, there," said he, "I have unsheathed my sword and it shall not be sheathed again until this contest is ended."

He became blind several years before his death.

No. 111.¹⁴ *Edward Lacey*, a farmer, son of John and grandson of Edward, the first settler of the name Lacey, in Fairfield (Stratfield), appears upon the Stratfield Parish records, Dec. 30, 1755, when Stephen Fairchild, Richard Hall, and Edward Lacey, Jr., were chosen School Committee. In 1757, he, with Dea. William Bennett and others, joined the "North Company" in the settlement of North Fairfield, now the town of Easton, which company appears to have been under the jurisdiction of the Stratfield Parish for some years. He purchased lands of ——— Jackson, on the west side of the highway (now Easton turnpike) at a point about eight miles from Bridgeport, it being the same that the late Anson Bennett owned for many years. In 1761 Edward Lacey was chosen by Stratfield Parish, collector of ministerial, society and school rates within the limits of the North Company, and receipts for money paid by him to Rev. Robert Ross, and also from Rev. Joseph Lamson, of the Church of England, appears on the Parish records. It is said that the early religious meetings of the place were held at his house.

He was first married to Hannah Summers, by whom he had nine children. Eleven months after the birth of the two youngest (twins), October, 1755, she died and was buried at Stratfield. Subsequently he married Deborah Odell and had

¹⁴ This may not be the exact location, but is near it.



five children. Rowland B. Lacey is a descendant through Zachariah (one of the twins above mentioned), and his wife Betty Rowland, and his son Jesse and Edna (Munson) Lacey. Edward Lacey died in North Fairfield (Easton), June 18, 1772, in his 61st year, and a fine old slate stone marks his grave in the cemetery near the Baptist Church, where also lie the remains of Zachariah and Jesse Lacey, above named.

His descendants are numerous and widely scattered through the country, but very few of the name remain in Connecticut.

No. 112. *Benjamin Lacey*, a tanner and currier, and shoemaker, having his shop and vats westerly from the house, convenient to the stream of water. Among his apprentices were Joseph Fayerweather Brothwell, Zachariah Lacey, and his own son David Lacey. Zachariah Lacey and J. F. Brothwell were of the same age and their terms of apprenticeship expired at the commencement of the Revolution. They together enlisted in a company commanded by Capt. Josiah Lacey and marched to New York. On the expiration of their time they re-enlisted and served nearly four years, when they united in hiring a man by the name of Jackson to serve during the war, by which they were exempted.

Benjamin Lacey married Margaret Hall. In 1767, and for many years thereafter, he was collector of ministerial rates, in Stratfield Parish, for the Church of England. He died in 1784, aged 45 years.

Joseph F. Brothwell married Molly (or Mary), daughter of Benjamin Lacey and removed to Woodbury.

David, son of Benjamin Lacey succeeded his father at the homestead and was known as David Lacey, the shoemaker. His children were David, Eleazer, Benjamin, Ruth, and Ellen. David was a large owner in, and the well known manager of the Washington bridge over the Housatonic river for many years. Eleazer Lacey was early engaged in the lumber business in Bridgeport; was next the cashier of the Middlesex County Bank, succeeding Charles Foote, who was called to the Connecticut Bank in 1834. At a later period he was the first cashier of the (Bridgeport) City Bank at its organization. Benjamin Lacey resided in Southport.



No. 113. Benjamin Brothwell, son of Joseph (No. 110), married Anna Beach, of Rock House district, in North Fairfield, now Easton. He resided first at No. 110, but after the death of his father he built a new house on this site, and reared a family of four sons and four daughters. Roswell, the third son, was the best known and most thoroughly identified with this community. He was considerable of a farmer as well as his father, much interested in agriculture, and was often engaged as manager at the county and local fairs. His residence was on the site designated as No. 115. He died in 1883, at the advanced age of 81 years. His wife was Julia Ann Hall, who survives him at the age of 83 years. Their only son, Benjamin Beach Brothwell, succeeds his father on the same premises.

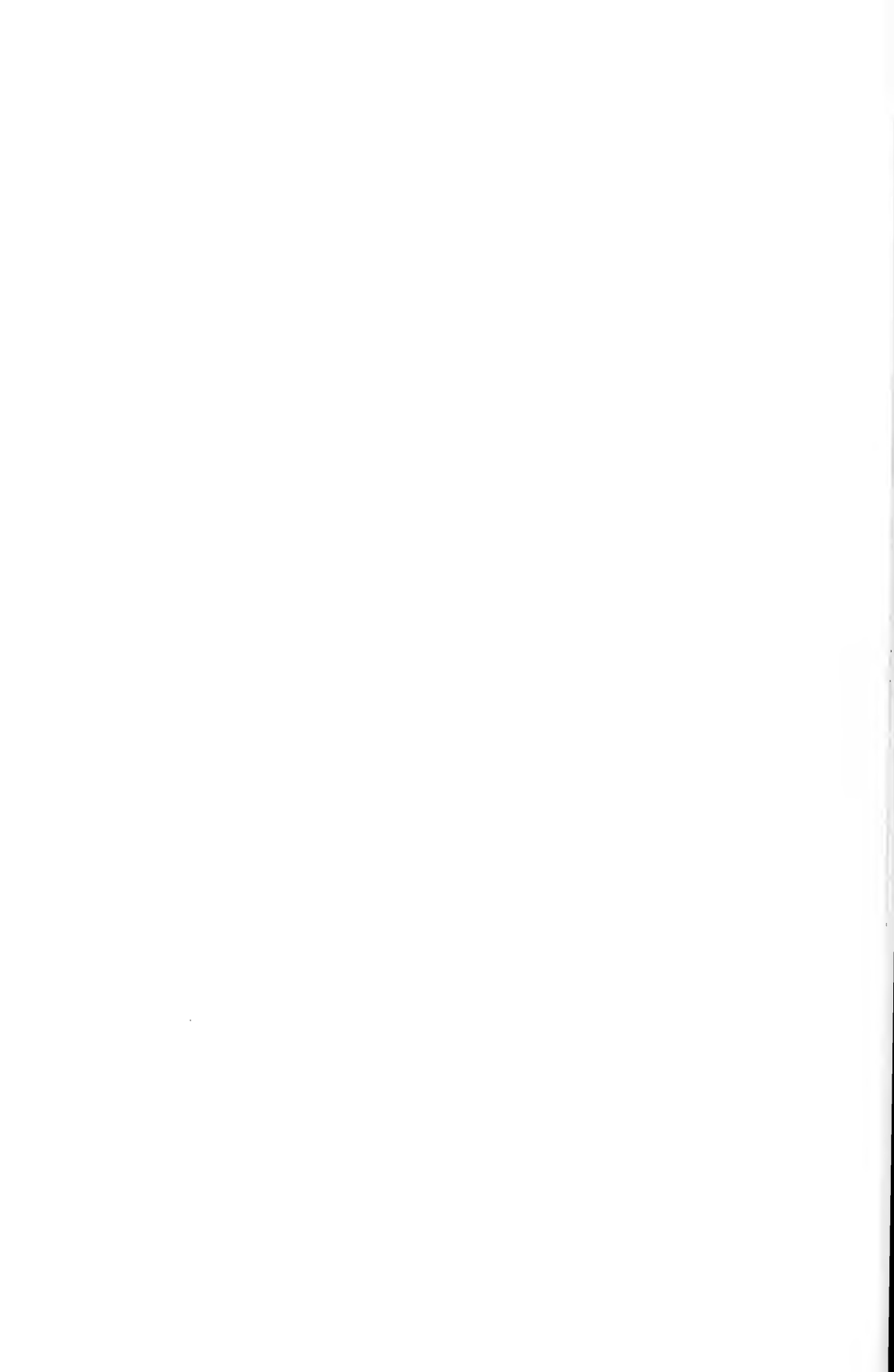
No. 114. Error on the map.

No. 115. Amos Merriman was a cooper by trade. He came from Cheshire, Conn., about 1795. One of the early Baptist ministers was Elder Royce, who came here from Cheshire, and it is understood that his acquaintance with and interest in Elder Royce induced Mr. Merriman to remove to Stratfield. He built his house and cooper shop on this spot and resided here until about 1815, when he removed to Kentucky and left no representatives here.

Roswell Brothwell afterwards became the owner and made his residence here. He built the house and made the fine improvements which at present appear, some years before his death.

No. 116. Lemuel Bangs was by trade a blacksmith. His residence was in Truck street, a little way south of the first Baptist meeting-house. His children were born there.

Mr. Bangs was a poor man, but a zealous Whig in the Revolution. Two of his sons, the Rev. Nathan Bangs, D.D., of New York City, and Elder Heman Bangs, were school-mates with Capt. Daniel Sterling, at the district school. The family left this part of the country about the year 1790. The two sons were very large men and were in the ministry of the M. E. Church many years.



Lemuel Bangs met in the time of the Revolution with other Whigs at Nichols' tavern, parson Ross, also a strong Whig, being of the number. During the discussions Lemuel Bangs said, he would be willing to die and suffer eternal punishment if he could be the means of making America free. Mr. Ross replied, "it is a good thing to be zealous but not to be too zealous. Where is my hat, I must be going."

No. 117. *The Stratfield Baptist Church* was first gathered in October, 1751. It was a result, in part, of the "Great Awakening," or "New Light" movement in 1740 and 41. The Rev. Samuel Cooke of the Stratfield parish was in favor of Whitefield and his preaching, but there was a considerable sentiment opposed to Mr. Cooke's views, and some of the opposition went to the Episcopal Church.

Upon the death of Mr. Cooke in 1747, a successor in the pastorate—Rev. Lyman Hall—was secured, who was opposed to New Light methods, and this increased the feeling of dissatisfaction towards the old parish and church.

The Separatist feeling, finally, took form under the leadership of Capt. John Sherwood and the preaching of the Rev. Joshua Moss (or Morse) in 1751.

Mr. Moss was a convert under the preaching of Whitefield, in Rhode Island, and had united with the Baptist Church, entertaining its sentiments in regard to baptism, close communion and preparation for the ministry, namely, that a liberal education was unnecessary; the requisites being, the divine call, hallowed fire and spiritual enlightenment.

Mr. Moss had preached in the place repeatedly and on the second Lord's day in October, 1751, being assembled at the house of John Sherwood, he preached and after the sermon the following persons, Zechariah Mead, Nathaniel Seeley, Elihu Mash (Marsh), John Sherwood, Ebenezer Sanford and Samuel Beardsley, six men with a number of women, after the covenant services, were baptized by Elder Moss, and the Lord's Supper was administered. These services, as then judged, constituted the organization of the Church.



From this organization for six years there are found no records of this church. Some difficulty followed, between the members of this Baptist Church and the Old Stratfield Society about the collection of ministerial rates. The former thought that, under the law they should be exempt, the latter claimed of them rates the same as of others, since they were not an organized society, as the law required in order to be exempt, and tradition says that Captain Sherwood suffered his rate to be collected under distraint on his personal property, and in 1755, brought a suit in the Superior Court to recover sums which had been so collected. The result is not known, except that at the annual meeting of the Stratfield Society, December 29, 1757, shortly after the ordination of Capt. Sherwood as the first resident pastor of this Church, the ministerial rates of John Sherwood, Nathaniel Seeley, Zachariah Mead and Ebenezer Sanford were remitted for the year 1756 and 1757, and that they should be exempt from the rates of the following year.

Captain John Sherwood was ordained as an elder, in the Baptist Church, on the third Tuesday in December, 1757, by the Elders and Messengers of the Churches in New London and Groton, assembled with the Baptist Church in Stratfield, and he became the settled pastor of this church.

At the end of the first ten years, sixteen persons had been received into membership, and these had their residences in Ridgefield, Redding, Wilton and Newtown.

Elder Sherwood died in 1779, aged 75 years. He was a man of strong convictions, and was faithful to them while a member of the old Stratfield Church, as well as after he became a Baptist. He labored devotedly and with much energy, and hence successfully, not only in Stratfield but extensively in Fairfield county. He had great physical powers, as appears in his encounter with the Indian, as related in No. 102.

It is no disparagement to either to say that his grit reappeared remarkably in his well known grandson, Dea. David Sherwood, who died in 1873 at the great age of 94 years.



No. 118. *The Parsonage* of the Stratfield Baptist Society of the "olden time" was located here. It was the residence of Elder Seth Higby, Elder Royce, and others.

The house was long since taken down and the property now belongs to the estate of the late Roswell Brothwell.

The location of the present Parsonage is designated on the map as No. 116, the place formerly occupied by Lemuel Bangs. It was the toll house of the Easton turnpike for many years from about 1835.

No. 116. *Capt. John Sherwood*, a prominent farmer in the Stratfield Society, became a Baptist Elder, and pastor of the Stratfield Baptist Church in 1757, which he served faithfully about ten years. He died in 1779, at the age of 75 years. See No. 102 and 117.

No. 120. *Patrick Keeler*, from the north of Ireland, came to this parish during the period of the Revolution. He married first, Anne, daughter of Onessimus Hubbell, and 2d, Sarah Holburton. His daughter, Polly, married Nathan Seeley Meeker, son of David Meeker, who lived at the place designated on the map as No. 105. The 2d daughter, Anne, married Joseph Brothwell, son of Benjamin, and after the death of Patrick Keeler they continued to reside on the place. The children of Joseph and Anne (Keeler) Brothwell are Charles H. (of Bridgeport) and John (of Greenfield, Connecticut), and Emily, who married Charles Plumb. Charles H. is the well known agent of Hon. P. T. Barnum, and now a prominent member of the Board of Public Works of the City of Bridgeport. Patrick Keeler was strongly attached to Parson Shelton and the Protestant Episcopal Church. He was specially helpful to Mr. Shelton in many ways, but particularly enjoyed in his younger years the Christmas illumination of the old church, insisting on a candle at every pane of glass in the prominent windows.

120^a. *John Hopkins* came to Stratfield from the north of Ireland in company with Patrick Keeler, who was about three years his senior.

^a Not located on the map.



Hopkins was a strong Presbyterian, and, though differing in religious sentiment from his neighbor Keeler, they ever remained fast friends. Hopkins located on the Valley road, so called, a few rods from where it leaves the upper cross-road leading from Truck Street to Toilsome Hill school house. He married Mehitabel Smith. Their children were James, John, Mary Ann, and Catharine. James married, first, Sarah Wilson; and second, Mary Sherwood. He lived on the old homestead, and after his second marriage built a new house. He left no children.

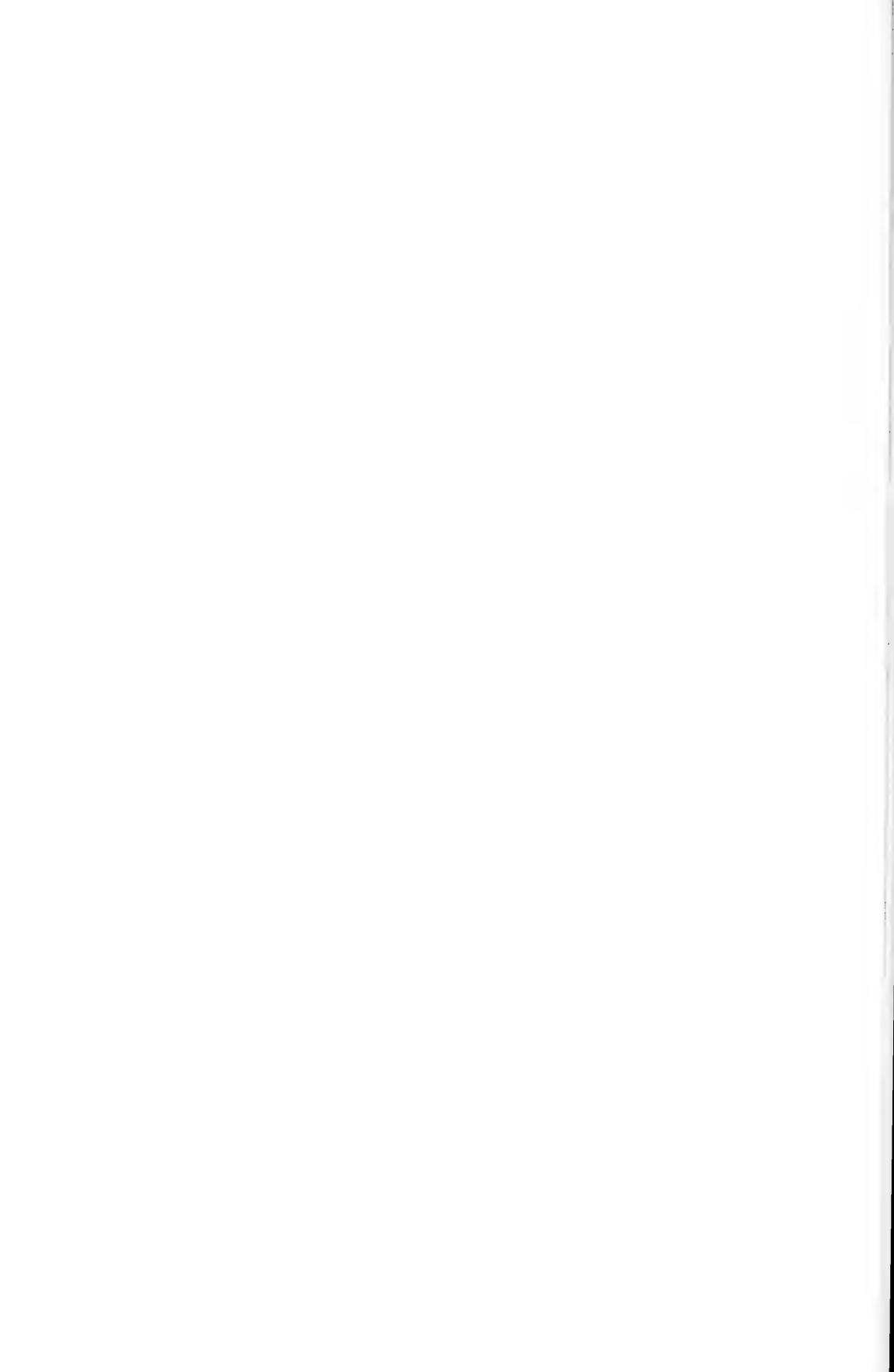
John was a shoemaker and dealer in Bridgeport. He married Abigail Booth, dau. of James Booth of Stratford. His children are Lewis Miles, and Alfred, both well known merchants and manufacturers of stoves, household goods and plumbing. Mary Ann married Nathaniel Thorp of Fairfield. She lived many years a widow at what is now No. 276 Lafayette street. A son Levi survives her.

No. 121. Onessimus Hubbell, son of Daniel, was baptized November 16, 1755, was a farmer, and died September 14, 1824.

No. 122. Thaddeus Hubbell, a brother of Onessimus, was a farmer. They descended from the first Richard, through Samuel; born 1657; Daniel born 1691; Daniel born 1724. Thaddeus had children Mary, who married Eli B. Nichols, Esther, who married John Parrott, Joseph and Rebecca.

No. 122^a.¹⁵ Jedediah Wells. His house was on the south side of the highway at Fresh Pond near the district school house—No. 68. He was son of Capt. Jedediah Wells, who was lost at sea about 1758, and grandson of Samuel Wells, located at No. 2 on the map—a large land owner in the south part of the settlement. This family are in direct line from Governor Thomas Wells. See genealogy. The only descendants of Jedediah are from his daughter Lucy, who married Abraham Parrott. Frederick Wells Parrott and Henry R. Parrott are (in 1885) owners of the ancestral property on North avenue and North Washington avenue.

¹⁵ Not located on the map.



No. 123. *Golden Hill Indians.* The spot of ground containing eighty acres where the Golden Hill tribe of Indians lived at the time the parish began to be settled, contained at least one hundred wigwams, and was their cornfield. It was situated in the city of Bridgeport on the old Golden Hill road, now called Washington avenue. Golden Hill was so called by the English from the rocks that contained a yellow isinglass resembling gold. But it is not all gold that shines.

No. 123^a. *An Indian Wigwam,* occupied about 1798 by an Indian called Tom Sherman. This Indian house stood on, or near, the site of the dwelling house of the late Capt. Daniel Sterling, near a living spring called the Indian spring. It appears that there were about eight acres of land around it, which was the last of the old Indian field, on which the Golden Hill Indians inhabited.

No. 124. *Capt. Daniel Sterling,* a native of Stratfield, built his house on the east side of Main street, on the Indian lot, so called, in the year 1804, where he resided for many years until his death. He was for a long time a successful ship-master, from New York in the Liverpool trade.

No. 125. *Ebenezer Allen,* son of Nehemiah, was a shoemaker. His children were Samuel, James, Justus and Ruth, who married William Parrott, and Edri, who married Nicholas Burr.

No. 126. *Dea. Elijah Hawley* was a house carpenter. He was a deacon of the First Congregational Church until 1790, and died in the State of Ohio in 1825, aged 84 years. He had one son, named Jesse, who was born in the old red house, standing on Main street nearly opposite Gold street. Jesse Hawley removed to the State of New York in early life, where he died aged about 70 years. It is said that he was the projector of the Erie Canal, which project he communicated to Governor Clinton, which resulted in the building of that great work. Major Aaron Hawley, a brother of Dea. Elijah, became the owner of the place before 1787, and occupied it until his death in 1803. His son, Capt. Samuel, succeeded him. He and his descendants held and occupied it until about 1840.



No. 127. Samuel Porter was a farmer and weaver. He owned the farm called Porter's Point in the City of Bridgeport, Gold street crossing the same. He married Abiah Hubbell, who had a brother named Abel Hubbell, who lived to the extreme old age of over 103 years. I saw the old man a short time before he died. He was then in good health, but deaf and blind. He could recite hymns and portions of the Bible which he had learned in his youth. No other man in this parish has ever attained the age of 100 years. Mr. Elijah Burritt and Ozias Burr both reached 98 years; and there was a woman buried in the old parish ground by the name of Molly Jackson, who died at the age of 101 years.

Samuel Porter had a son, Samuel, Jr., who married my sister Ellen Sherman. He was a farmer and weaver; had no children. Samuel, Sen., had a daughter, named Mary, who married Lewis Sturges. They had two sons, Isaac and Joseph P. Sturges. The Rev. Thomas B. Sturges of Greenfield is an only child of Joseph P. Sturges.

This Porter property is treated at considerable length on page 489 and following, the reason being that quite a number of historical events cluster around and upon it.

No. 128. Capt. James Hayt owned this property. He came here from Norwalk. Samuel Peet purchased the property of him and erected on it a frame dwelling, which has given place to the present brick block of Mr. L. F. Curtis.

No. 129. Doct. Daniel Clifford was the first resident physician in this parish.

No. 130. Dea. Elijah Hawley erected a dwelling at this place and sold it about 1796 to Silas Sherman, who was a merchant, and married Abigail, daughter of Thomas Hawley. The late Ira Sherman was their son. His daughter, Caroline, married Nicholas Northrop.

No. 130^a.¹⁶ Capt. David Hawley, son of James, owned this, the first brick house built within the present city

¹⁶ Not located on the map.



limits. It was located on the corner of Water and Gilbert streets.

Capt. Hawley was with Arnold in the battle of the flotillas on Lake Champlain, in the Revolution, and he also led the expedition that captured Judge Thomas Jones, of Hempstead, L. I., who was afterwards exchanged for Gen. G. S. Silliman, an American officer. Capt. Hawley died in 1807, and his brick house was afterwards occupied as a saddle factory by Seth B. Jones, and was the arena of great theological discussions among the workmen, specially Joshua Lord, William Wright, Edwin B. Gregory and Alexander S. Gordon.

No. 131. *Timothy Shaylor* resided at this place with his brother. Isaac Sherman wrote of them, "I believe they were seafaring men."

No. 131^a. *Capt. Abijah Hawley*, was the son of Thomas, No. 133. He was a prominent merchant, and in early life sailed in different vessels in the Boston coasting trade. Among his descendants in 1885 are Munson Hawley, President of the Bridgeport National Bank; Marcus C. Hawley, formerly of the hardware firm of Thomas Hawley and Company, now engaged extensively in the same business in California; Dea. Edward Sterling, and others.

No. 132. *Nehemiah Allen* was a shoemaker and farmer. He came from Stratford before the Revolution and settled near Baker's Pond. His sons were: Nehemiah, Capt. James, who built the Stanley House, and Ebenezer. He had one daughter, Hannah, who married Capt. Charles Wing.

No. 133. *Thomas Hawley*, son of Capt. Ezra, No. 90, was a farmer. His son Zalmon is said to have transplanted the large elm tree on the premises of J. De Ver Warner, carrying it on his shoulder from the adjacent forest.

No. 134. *Mather's Point*, purchased from Mrs. Lucy Barlow, daughter of Capt. Samuel Sherwood by Capt. Titus C. Mather from Long Island, about 1829, for a shipyard. It was previously known as Sherwood's Point and earlier as New Pasture Point.

No. 135. *Hon. Pierrepont Edwards*, who died in Bridgeport, April 14, 1826, aged 76 years. See list of Bridgeport lawyers.

No. 136. *Ephraim Wilcox* was a boat builder and came from Stratford. It is said he possessed, for his day, an unusually extensive library, of which he made good use. He, Elijah Burritt, and Philip Nichols, were the literary trio of their period, or what would have been called then, "well read men." Mr. Wilcox had no children. Ira Curtis, from Stratford, was his apprentice and successor, and inherited his property and library, most of it being now in the possession of his son Lewis Curtis.

No. 137. *The Old Yellow Mill*, which was destroyed by fire in 1884. See page 407.

No. 138. *An old dwelling*, removed on the opening or extension of East Main street in 1800.

No. 139. ——— Hollins; occupation unknown.

No. 140. *Capt. Nathan Sherman*, a farmer, resided at this place, and died September 10, 1827. He was the ancestor of Messrs. O. W. and William Sherman, and of the Rev. H. B. Sherman of Torrington, Conn.

No. 141. *James Walker* was the owner of this homestead many years, from about 1739, but it is now in the possession of Mr. James W. Beardsley by inheritance through his mother, the daughter of James Walker.

The land of this homestead, most of it, was first laid out to Robert Walker, the father of James, described in part thus: "February 25, 1714-15. Then laid out one tract of land to Robert Walker on the east side of Pequonnock River, below the falls, 230 rods from north to south, 36 rods wide at the north end and 16 rods at the south end, and 66 wide in the middle, bounded west with the Pequonnock river, east with the highway, it being 61 acres, and 15 acres on the east side of the highway."

This is the territory now denominated the Beardsley Park, it having been given to the city of Bridgeport for a park by Mr. James W. Beardsley.



James Walker built the house, now standing, in 1739, and resided in it thereafter until his decease. The house is well preserved after the service of one hundred and forty-six years.

James Walker was the brother of the Hon. Robert Walker of Stratford, one of the most distinguished men that Stratford ever raised. James was Justice of the Peace in Stratford many years, and a prominent man in the society of North Stratford. Many quaint, curious and interesting papers and documents are still preserved which were collected by him in his long services as Justice of the Peace.

No. 142. *Eben Booth* was a farmer at this place quite a number of years since 1800. His family consisted of a wife and eight daughters. His daughter Eliza married Eli Baldwin and removed to Auburn, N. Y.; his daughter Nancy married Col. Lyman Baldwin, removed to Auburn and thence to Detroit, Michigan, where he was high sheriff, and afterwards mayor of the city; and his daughter Alice married Peter Hayden, a very wealthy hardware merchant of Cincinnati, O., and more recently a resident of New York city. The other daughters went west with their sisters.



*The Stratfield (or Pequonnock) Burying Place.*¹⁷

In memory of
Ebenezer Allen, who died May 6, 1830, in his 77 year.

Hannah Allen, wife of Ebenezer Allen, died Jan. 18, 1828, aged 68 years, 4 months.

In memory of
Ebenezer Allen, who died July 6, 1797, aged 11 years.

Also
Joseph, Edri, Joseph B., Justus, Joseph & Mary; Children of Ebenezer & Hannah Allen.

Justus Allen, Died Aug. 2, 1863, Æ. 63.

Adaline, Died July 12, 1857, Æ. 18.

Mary C., Died Aug. 4, 1863, Æ. 18. Daughters of Justus & Julia Allen.

In memory of
Mr. Nehemiah Allen, who died March 7th, 1810, in the 81st year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Edra Allen, wife of Mr. Nehemiah Allen, who died Feb^y. 20th, 1809, in the 74 year of her age.

In Memory of
Nehemiah Allen, who died Sept. 25, 1820, in his 40 year.

Here another Guest we bring,
Seraphs of celestial wing,
To our fun'ral altar come
Wait a Friend & Brother home.

In memory of
Samuel B. Allen, who died July 18, 1818, in the 36 year of his age.

In memory of
Theodore Allen, who died April 5th, 1810, aged 2 months & 15 days.

Waldomir Backus, son of Joseph Backus, Esqr. and Mrs. Huldah, his wife, born Jan. 7, 1803, died Dec. 14, 1809.

In memory of an
Infant daughter of Joseph & Huldah Backus, who died Feb. 17, 1799.

Laura, wife of Joseph Banks, & daughter of Philemon Sherwood, died Nov. 17, 1826, aged 28 years & 7 months.

In memory of
Mary Ann, daughter of Elbert & Polly Banks, who died Aug. 8, 1833, Æ. 16 yrs. & 3 mo.

In memory of
Jane, who died Jan. 26, 1816, Æ. 10 mo. & 10 d.

Also of
Stephen Henry, who died June 30, 1828, Æ. 7 mo.

Son and daughter of John & Sarah Bartlet.

Here lies the body of an
Infant son of James & Huldah Beach, who died Dec^r 19th, 1806, twelve hours old.

In memory of
Ensⁿ Abijah Beardslee, who departed this Life Nov^r 2^d, 1789, in the 40th Year of his Age.

In memory of
Drusilla, widow of Abijah Beardsley, who died April 1, 1839, in her 87 year.

In memory of
Sarah Beardsley, who died Aug. 1, 1850, in her 64 year.

Blessed are the dead
who die in the Lord.

Our Parents
Anson Beardsley, Died May 19, 1866, Æ. 83.

Nancy Treadwell, his wife, died June 12, 1866, Æ. 77.

Only resting till the morning.

Thaddeus Benedict, Esqr., departed this life Oct^r 6th, 1799, in the 51st year of his age.

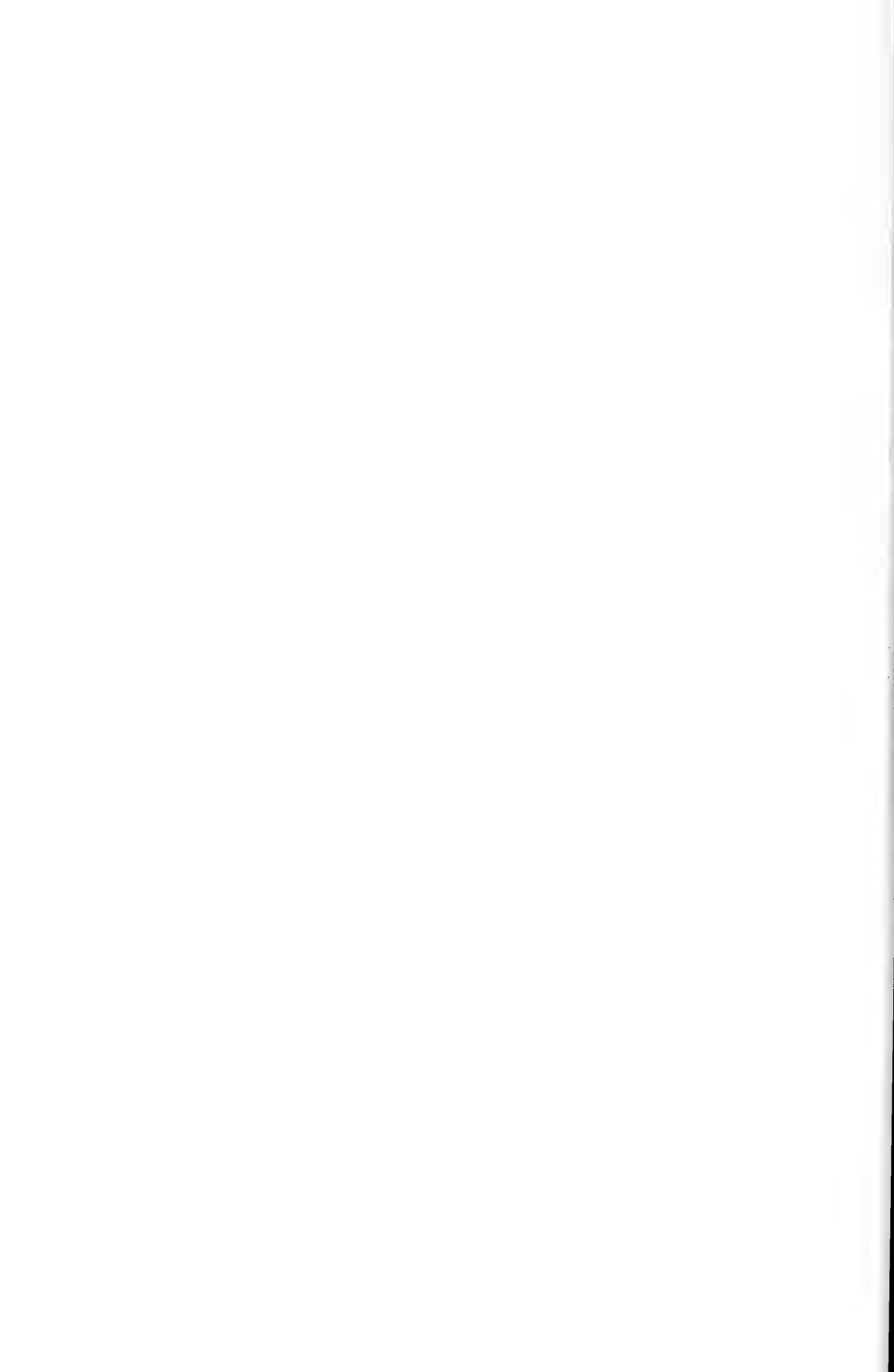
Thaddeus Benedict, youngest son of Thaddeus & Deborah Benedict, who died 27th March, 1800, Æt. 8 years, 4 months & 4 days.

Gentle Reader what is this life?
Tis nothing. Tis everything.

Here lies the Body of
Mrs. Hannah, the wife of Mr. William Bennitt, who died Nov^r y^e 28, 1743, in y^e 31st year of her age.

In memory of
Huldah Bennett, who died Oct. 2, 1839, aged 56 yrs.

¹⁷ See page 77 of this book.



Here lyes y^e Body of
Sarah Bennit, Wife to Mr. James
Bennit, Dec^d Nov^r y^e 23th, 1726, in y^e
73^d year of her age.

Edwards Blackman, died Oct. 15,
1845, aged 58.

Julia, wife of Edwards Blackman,
Died Aug. 5, 1839, \AA . 45.

Israel Blakeman, died June 5,
1853, \AA . 72.

In memory of
Polly, Wife of Israel Blakeman, who
died Apr. 28, 1848, In her 68th year.

Calm on the bosom of thy God,
Sweet spirit rest thee now!
E'en while with us thy foot steps trod
His seal was on thy brow.

Here lveith the Body of
James Blakeman, who departed
this life in the 23 year of His Age,
October 29, 1709.

In memory of
Susan, Daughter of Israel & Polly
Blakeman, who died July 27, 1805,
 \AA . 2 yrs. & 9 mos.

In Memory of
Ebenezer Booth, who died Dec. 29,
1820, aged 47.

In memory of
Comphy, widow of Ebenezer Booth,
who died March 11, 1843, aged 66 yrs.

In memory of
Elizabeth Booth, who died Dec. 29,
1820, aged 47.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Deacon Joseph Booth, Who de-
parted this Life May the 2nd, 1763, in
the 75th year of his age.

Here lyes the Body of
Mrs. Sarah Booth, who died April
—, AD. 1784, in the 76 Year of her
age.

Anna, Daughter of Mr. Joseph &
Betsey Booth, died March 26, 1793
or 5, Aged 7 days.

In memory of
Richard Walker Booth, son of
Mr. Samuel & Mrs. Jerusha Booth,
who died Dec^r 10th, 1789, Aged 3
years, 9 months & 14 Days.

Mary Ann, Daughter of Francis &
Ruth Botsford, died Apl. 20th, 1806,
aged 9 weeks.

Ann, wife of Hezekiah Bradley, died
Dec. 26, 1822.

Erected to the memory of
Mr. Samuel Brinsmade, who
was born March 19th, 1750, and died
March 20th, 1808, aged 58 years and
1 day.

But now is Christ risen from the dead and be-
come the first fruits of them that slept.

In memory of
Sarah M., Daughter of Henry and
Sarah Bristol, who died June 16,
1832, \AA . 1 year & 4 mo.
Sleep, sweet babe, and take thy rest;
God called thee home, he thought it best.

Emery Brothwell, Died Sept. 4
1859, aged 56 years.

Ruth Polina, wife of Emery Broth-
well, Died March 14, 1848, in the 49th
year of her age.

Sarah Ann, Daughter of Emery
Brothwell, Died Mar. 22, 1867, \AA . 36
yrs.

Lucy M., Daughter of Emery & Po-
lina Brothwell, died July 30, 1832, \AA .
4 yrs. & 4 mo.

This stone is erected in memory of
Betsey Brothwell, Daughter of
Thomas & Hannah Brothwell, who
died Sept. 13, 1810, in the 16th year of
her age.

In memory of
Hannah Brothwell, who died Nov.
1, 1829, aged 63 years & 5 months.

Joseph Brothwell died Jan. 27, 1811,
in the 84 year of his age.

Hannah, his Relict, died June 4,
1815, in the 85 year of her age.
Why do we mourn departing friends
Or shake at death's alarms!
'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends
To call them to his arms.

In memory of
Mary Brothwell, wife of Alden
Brothwell, who died May 28, 1834,
aged 27 years & 8 mo.

In Memory of
Mary Josephine, daughter of Alden
& Mary Brothwell, who died Oct. 30,
1835, \AA . 1 yr. & 6 mo.

Harriet S., Daughter of Alden &
Mary Brothwell, Died Dec. 7, 1853,
Aged 21.

In memory of
Thomas Brothwell, who died April
14, 1842, in the 76th year of his age.

In memory of
William Brothwell, who died April
13, 1828, aged 72 years.



Mr. William Brothwell, son of Thomas & Hannah Brothwell, Died March 7, 1818, in the 26 year of his age.

Praise on tombs are titles vainly spent,
A man's good name is his best monument.

In memory of
Ebenezer Brown, who died June 14, 1863, *Æ.* 82 yrs.

In memory of
Sarah, wife of Ebenezer Brown, who died Sept. 28, 1853, *Æ.* 75.

In memory of
Mr. Aaron Burr, who died Aug^t 23^d, 1814, in the 57th year of his age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Amos Burr, son of Mr. John & Mrs. Katharine Burr, Died September 27th, 1743, in y^e 3^d year of his age.

Here lyes the Body of
Mrs. Charity Burr, Wife to William Burr, Esqr., Who Departed this life, October y^e 2^d, 1769, in y^e 48th year of Her Age.

In memory of
Mrs. Hepzibah Burr, Relict of Mr. Justus Burr, who died Oct^o 24th, 1810, aged 78 years.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Colo. John Burr, Who Departed this Life June 13th, *Anno Domini*, 1750, in y^e 79th Year of His Age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Deborah Burr, Wife of Major John Burr, Who dec^d Decembr^o 4th, 1726, in y^e 52^d year of Her Age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Deborah Burr, Daughter of Major John & Mrs. Deborah Burr, Who Dec^d November y^e 28th, 1726, in y^e 22^d Year of Her Age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Capt. John Burr, Who Departed this Life Sep^r 13, O. S. A. D. 1752, in y^e 55th Year of His Age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mrs. Catharine Burr, Widow of Capt. John Burr, Who Departed this Life Sept. y^e 25th, A. D. 1753, in y^e 53^d year of Her Age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
John Burr, Esq., Who departed this Life July 28th, 1771, in y^e 44th year of his Age.*

* He was killed by lightning, while attending worship in the meeting-house.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Justus Burr, Who died suddenly July the 13th, 1766, in ye 32^d Year of His Age.

In memory of
Ozias Burr, who died Sept. 5, 1836, in the 98 year of his age.

In memory of
Sarah, Wife of Ozias Burr, who died Sept. 2, 1820, in her 82 year.

In memory of
Charity, dau^{tr} of Ozias & Sarah Burr who died Aug. 19, 1794, in her 27 year.

In memory of
Rebecca, dau^{tr} of Ozias & Sarah Burr who died Aug. 23, 1794, in her 29 year.

In memory of
Philo, Son of Ozias & Sarah Burr, who died Sept. 12, 1794, in his 13 year.

To the Memory of
Mrs. Susanna Burr, Wife of Capt. Gershom Burr, and daughter of Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Margaret Young, who departed this life Feb. 12th, 1797, in the 24th year of her age.

Also of
Susanna Burr, Junr, only Daughter of Capt. Gershom and Mrs. Susanna Burr, who died Febr^y 4th, 1797, aged 4 years.

They are not dead but gone before,
Why do we mourn departed friends?
Or shake at death's alarms,
'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends
To call them to his arms.

William Burr, Son of Mr. William & Mrs. Mary Burr, Died June 20th, A. D. 1739, In his 13th month.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Mary Burr, Wife of William Burr, M.A., Who died March 19th, *Anno Domini*, 1743, in y^e 33^d year of Her Age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
William Burr, Esq., Who departed this Life May the 5th, 1769, in y^e 58 year of His Age.

In memory of
Mr. Charles Burritt, Who died Nov^r 12th, 1801, in the 80th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Lucy Burritt, Wife of Mr. Charles Burritt, who departed this life, June 26, 1789, In the 61st year of his age.



This monument is erected to perpetuate the memory of
Mrs. Sarah Burritt, Wife of Mr. Elijah Burritt, who died Jan. 12th, 1805, in the 63^d year of her age.

In memory of
Isaac Burritt, son of Mr. Elihu & Mrs. Eunice Burritt, who died March 16, 1766, in y^e 4th year of his age.

Cornelia, Daughter of Mr. Isaac and Mrs. Rebecca Burroughs, died Oct. 8th, 1805, aged 5 years & 28 days.

In memory of
Mr. Edward Burroughs, who departed this Life Sept. the 14th, 1776, in the 42^d year of his age.

Glory with all her lamps shall burn,
 And watch the Warrior's sleeping Clay
 Rest his dear sword beneath his head,
 Round him his faithful Arms shall stand
 The Guards and Honors of our Land.

Mrs. Grizzel Burroughs, Widow of the late Mr. Edward Burroughs, died Nov^r 19th, 1812, aged 78 years.

Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing instant in Prayer.

Stephen Burroughs, Esq. A man distinguished by his industry & his talents & acquirements, self-taught, and original, he explored the vast field of Mathematical & Astronomical Science beyond all the efforts of a Cassini or a Newton, & made discoveries of the most useful & astonishing nature. But in consequence of blindness his discoveries are lost to the world. He died Aug. 2, 1817, aged 83.

This monument is erected by Pixley Judson.

In memory of
Mrs. Huldah Burroughs, Wife of Stephen Burroughs, Esq^r., and Daughter of Mr. Peter and Mrs. Mary Pixlee, who departed this life July 9th, 1803, in the 66th year of her age.

Here lies Interred the Body of
Mrs. Ruth Burton, y^e wife of Mr. Solomon Burton, who Dec^d Nov. y^e 9, 1748, in y^e 30th year of her age.

Abby Jane, Daughter of George & Sarah Butler, Died Nov. 1st, 1873, Æ . 21.

Sarah, Daughter of George & Sarah Butler, Died May 1st, 1882, Æ . 21.

Wm. H. Butler, Died Dec. 29, 1879, aged 36 years.

Dear father we miss you,
 Gone but not forgotten.

In Memory of
Daniel Porter Cable, Son of Mr. Samuel & Mrs. Mary Cable, Who died April 20, 1765, in y^e 4th year of his Age.

In memory of
Mrs. Mary, Wife of Mr. Samuel Cable, who departed this life Dec^r 7th, 1793, Aged 54 years.

In Memory of
Mrs. Rebekah Cable, Relict of Mr. Andrew Cable, who died Feb^r, 23^d, 1799, aged 80 years & 9 days.

In Memory of
Mr. Wheeler Cable, who departed this life June 3^d, 1782, in the 24th year of his age.

I pass the gloomy vale of death,
 From all danger free,
 And trust to live with Christ
 To all eternity.

Ye Reverend Mr. Charles Chauncey, Minister of y^e Gospel at Stratfield, aged 48 years. Died December — 1714.

Here lies the Body of
Abiah Chauncey, Daught^r to Mr. Robert & Mrs. Hannah Chauncey, who dec^d Nov^r y^e 10, 1748, in y^e 19th year of her age.

To the Memory of
Frances Maria Clarke, daughter of Mr. Ransom Clark and Mrs. Mary Anna Clark, his wife, deceased August 2^d, 1792, aged 2 years & 67 days.

In Memory of an
Infant son of Mr. Ransom Clark & Mrs. Mary Anna, his Wife, departed this life, 16th Feb^r 1792, aged 3 days.

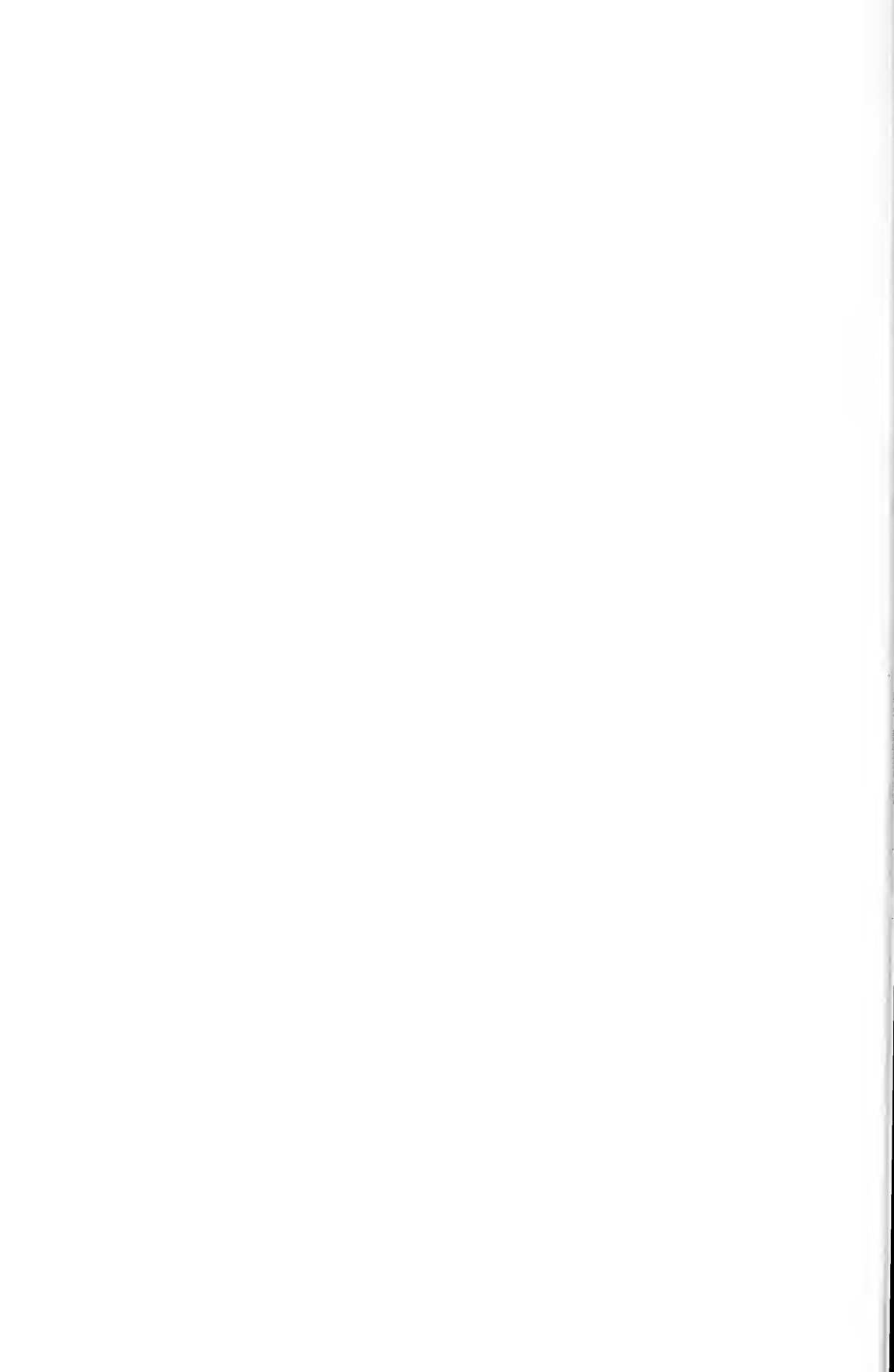
Eusebia Clark, Daughter of Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Caty Clark, died Sept. 14th, 1812, aged 1 year & 9 months.

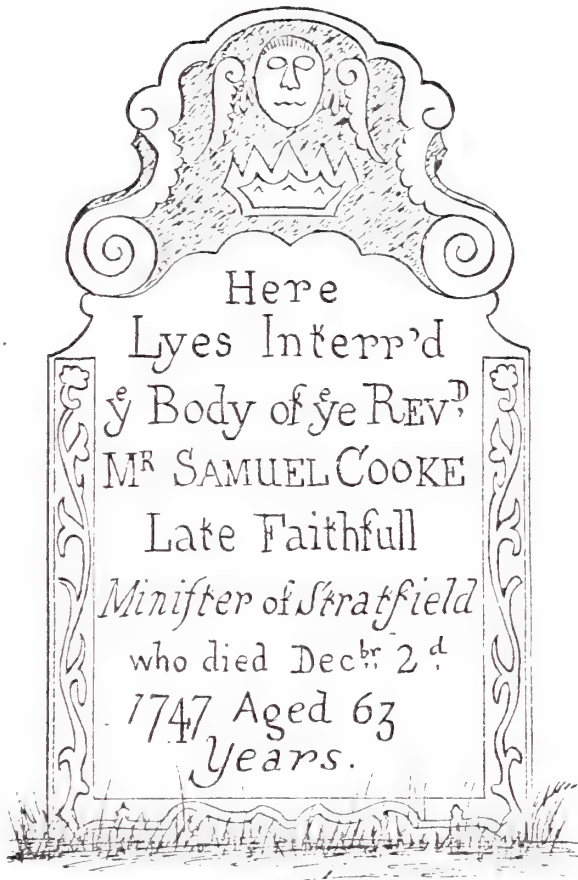
Patience Maria, Daughter of Eleazer & Patience Edgerton, Feb^r 15th, 1811, Aged 13 days.

Mary Elizabeth, Daughter of Eleazer & Patience Edgerton, died Dec^r 30th, 1821, Aged 7 months & 6 days.
 Sleep on sweet babe and take thy rest,
 God called thee home, he see 'twas best.

Here lyes Inter'd ye Body of y^e
Rev^d. Mr. Samuel Cooke, Late Faithfull minister of Stratfield, Who died Dec^r 2^d, 1747, Aged 63 Years.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Anne Cooke, Wife to y^e Rev^d Mr. Samuel Cooke, Who Died August 11th, 1721, in y^e 34th Year of Her Age.





In memory of
Mary Dewhirst, who died June, 5,
1843, aged 47 Years.

John Edwards—See next page.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mrs. Mary Edwards, Relict of
Mr. John Edwards, who Died March
6, 1749, in y^e 82nd year of her age.

Eunice, Daughter of Joseph and Pru-
dence (Wakelee) Edwards, died 1731,
aged 1 month.

Within the Compass of this narrow
grave lies the remains of

Mercy, Daughter of Nathaniel &
Hannah Ellis, who died Nov 6th, 1793.
Aged 4 months.

Peace to thy ashes thou lovely babe.

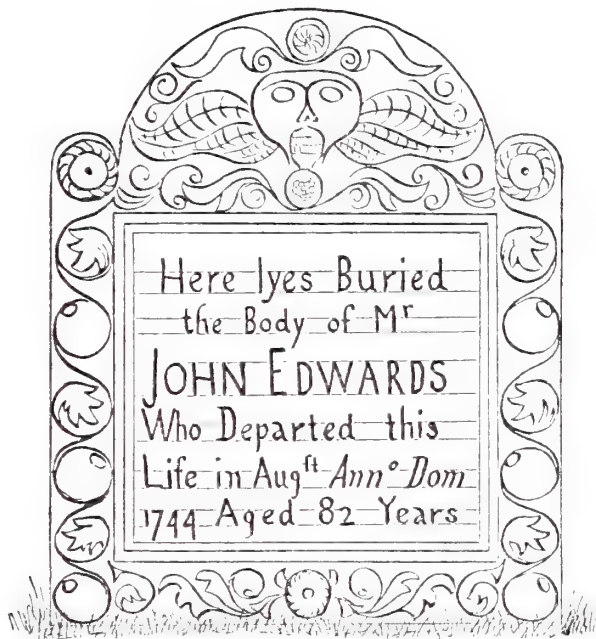
In memory of
Lt. Benjamin Fayerweather,
who departed this Life, June 20th,
1791, In the 74th year of his age.

Joseph, Son of Mr. James & Mrs.
Marcy Fayerweather, was born Jan'y
13th and died Augst 13th, 1798.

Maria, Daughter of Mr. James &
Mrs. Marcy Fayerweather, died Sept
7th, 1805, Aged 16 months.

B. F. [In line with the Burrs.]

Here lyes the Body of
Mr. Benjamin Fayerweather,
Dec^d — 6th, 1725, — Year of Age.



Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mrs. Sarah Noquier, Widow of
Mr. Benjamin Fayreweather & Mr.
Antony Noquier, who departed this
life May the 25th, A. D. 1743, in y^e 67
year of Her Age.

In Memory of
Ann, Wife of John Fayerweather, who
was Born April 27, 1712, at 5 in the
morning & Died Sept. 24, 1773.

Walter Fayreweather, Aged 6
Years, Died Dec. 26, 1717.

S. W., Decemb^r 18, 1707. [In the
Fayerweather line.]

D.D., 1688. [In the Fayerweather line.]

In memory of
Gilbert Fowler, who died Mar. 5,
1848, aged 52 years, 6 ms. & 10 ds.

In Memory of
Anna, wife of Gilbert Fowler, who
died April 12, 1844, aged 44 years, 2
ms. & 10 ds.

In memory of
Benoni French, who died Dec. 20,
1823, aged 85 years.

In memory of
Mihitable, wife of Benoni French,
who died August 12, 1814, .Æ. 71.

In memory of
Drucilla, wife of Capt. Joseph B.
French, who died June 25, 1830 in
her 42 year.

Drusilla Wheeler French, daugh-
ter of Mr. Joseph B. & Mrs. Drusilla
French, died Aug^t 29th, 1810, aged 10
months.

In Memory of
Gamaliel French, Jun., who died
June 28, 1828, aged 72 Years.

In Memory of
Susannah, wife of Gamaliel French,
who died March 18, 1835, aged 74
years.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Hannah French, Wife to
Gamaliel French, Who Departed this
life October the 10th, 1745, Aged 33
years.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Sarah French, Wife to Mr.
Gamaliel French, Who Departed this
life May y^e 27th, 1758, in y^e 32^d year
of Her Age.

In Memory of
James R. French, who died Jan.
14, 1835, in the 83 year of his age.

In Memory of

Anna, wife of James R. French, Died March 18, 1841, Æ. 70 years.

Julia Ann, daughter of James R. & Ann French, died April 20th, 1825, in her 17 year.

In bloom of life death laid me down,
Till the last joyful trump shall sound,
Then burst the chains with sweet surprise
And in my Saviour's image rise.

In Memory of

Mrs. Mary French, Wife of Mr. James French, who died Febr^y 10th, 1803, aged 45 years & 10 months.

Here lyes y^e Body of

Sergt. Samuel French, aged 65 years. Deces^d Dec^r y^e 20. 1732.

In memory of

Mabe, Relict of Samuel French, who died May 2, 1837, Aged 76 years.

Salmon Patchen, hur first husband, died April 19, 1807, aged 40 yrs.

In memory of

Daniel Glover, who died Nov. 8, 1830, Aged 87 yrs. 8 mo. & 6 days.

In memory of

Sally Glover, who departed this life Oct. 8, A. D. 1804, aged 57 years & 6 months.

George Boughton Gouge, Son of Mr. Thomas & Mrs. Ruth Gouge, dec^d Febr^y 21st, 1801, aged 5 years & 11 months.

In memory of

Esther Gregory, Wife of Mr. Enoch Gregory, Who departed this life July 16th, 1790, in the 83rd year of her age.

Lilly Maria, Daughter of Mr. James & Mrs. Philena Gregory, died Jan^y 30th, 1792, aged 1 year & 14 days.

Here lyeth y^e Body of

Mary Gregory, an infant whose birth enriched her parents on March y^e 8th, 1725, & she died in y^e 14th month of her age April y^e 17, 1726.

In memory of

Ruth Gregory, late amiable Consort of Ens. Seth Gregory, who died Oct^r 11, AD. 1772, aged 36 years & 6 months wanting 1 D.

How loved, how valued once
avails thee not,
To whom related
or by whom forgot
A heap of dust alone
remains of thee.

In memory of

Samuel Gregory, son of Mr. Seth & Mrs. Ruth Gregory, who died Decem^{br} 1st, 1766, in y^e 6th year of his age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of

Ensign Samuel Gregory, Who Departed this Life Decemb. y^e 11th, Anno Domini 1743, in y^e 66th Year of His Age.

In memory of

Mr. Thaddeus Gregory, who died Dec. 30th, 1777, in the 77th year of His Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of

Mr. Selah Gregory, son of Mr. Thaddeus & Mrs. Rebeckah Gregory, who Departed this life Sept. y^e 15th, 1758, in y^e 26th Year of His Age.

In memory of

Miss Huldah Gregory, Daughter of Mr. Thaddeus Gregory Jun^r and Mrs. Huldah his Wife, Who was born 4 months after the Death of her Father, and died July 24th, 1798, in the 21st year of her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of

Benjamin Hall, son of Mr. Francis & Mrs. Margaret Hall, who Died Aug. 25th, 1738, in y^e 21st year of his age.

Here lyes the Body of

David Hall, aged 10 years & 7 mo. Dec^d February y^e 15th, 1725/6.

Ephraim Hall, son of Mr. Elnathan & Mrs. Hannah Hall, Died April 22^d, 1739, aged 1 year & 3 Days.

I. H., 1719.

Ephraim Hall, son of Mr. Elnathan & Mrs. Hannah Hall, Died July 2^d, 1740, Aged 14 Days.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of

Mr. Francis Hall, Junr., Who Died February 26th, Anno Domini 1734/5, in y^e 30th year of his age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of

Mrs. Hannah Hall, Wife to Mr. Elnathan Hall, who Departed this life April 9th, Anno Domini 1741, in y^e 26th year of her age.

In memory of

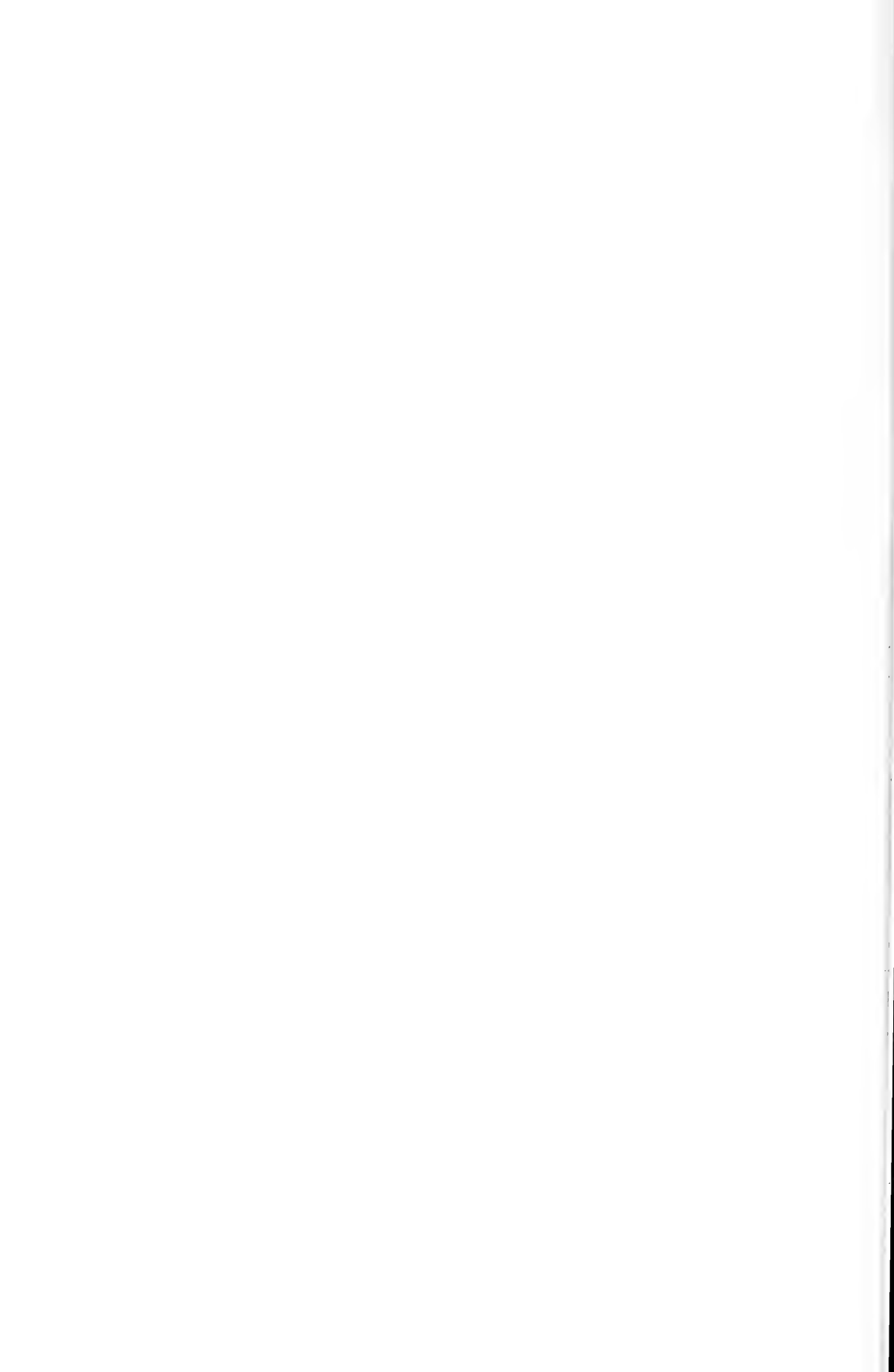
Mrs. Huldah Hall, Dau. of Mr. Richard & Mrs. Hannah Hall, who Departed this life Aug. 17th, 1773, in the 20th year of her age.

In memory of

James Seley Hall, son of Mr. James & Mrs. Abigail Hall, Who died April y^e 29th, 1770, in y^e 2d year of His Age.

Here lies Interr^d the Body of

Mr. John Hall, who dec^d April y^e 17, 1749, in the 71st year of his Age.



Here lyes y^e Body of
Garsham, son of John & Abigail
Hall, Dec^d Nov^r y^e 16th, 1746, in y^e
26 year of his Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Sarah Hall, Wife to Mr. John
Hall, who died April 6, *Anno Domini*
1739, Aged 26 years.

Here lyes the Body of
Martha Hall, Dec^d Nov^r y^e 13th,
1747, in y^e 31st year of her Age.

In memory of
Richard Hall, who died Sept. 23,
1826, aged 47 years.

In memory of
Sally, wife of Richard Hall, who died
March 12, 1840, aged 61 years.

Orrin M., son of Richard & Sally
Hall, died Jan. 4, 1820, aged 4 years
& 10 months.

Delia F. Hall, daughter of Richard
& Sally Hall, died Aug. 16, 1826,
aged 18 years.

This lovely youth so young & fair,
Called hence by early doom,
Just come to show how bright a flower
In paradise could bloom.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Daniel Harmon, son of Deacon
John & Mrs. Mary Harmon of Suf-
field, who died at Stratford, June y^e
22nd, 1763, in y^e 21st year of his age.

Major Aaron Hawley in his turn
received the Shaft of Death, July 21st,
1803, in 63^d year of his age, and was
here deposited in hopes of a glorious
Resurrection.

Man needs but little, nor that little long,
How soon must he resign his very dust
Which frugal nature lent him for an hour.

Here lies the body of
Elizabeth Hawley, wife of Mr.
Aaron Hawley, Daughter of Capt.
Ezra Hawley & Mrs. Abigail Haw-
ley, who departed this Life July the
8th, 1776, aged 35 years, 4 months &
6 days.

In memory of
Mrs. Sarah Hawley, wife of Mr.
Aaron Hawley and Daughter of Mr.
John Comstock, who departed this
life May 3^d, A. D. 1786, aged 39
years, 6 months.

In memory of
William Hawley, Son of Mr. Aaron
& Mrs. Sarah Hawley, who dec^d Jan.
8, A. D. 1787, Aged 1 year, 9 Months
& 10 Days.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Capt. Ezra Hawley, who departed
this life April the 27th, 1773, in y^e 62^d
Year of His Age.

In memory of
Mrs. Abigail Hawley, Wife of
Capt. Ezra Hawley, who Departed
this Life April 18th, 1786, in the 71st
year of her Age.

Thrice happy she who walked the Christian
road
And now enjoys her Saviour and her God.

Thomas Hawley, son of Mr. Ezra
& Mrs. Abigail Hawley, died Nov^r
28th, 1736, aged 10 months.

In memory of
Mr. Ezra Hawley, who departed
May 9th, 1796, in the 50th year of his
Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Abigail Hawley, wife of Mr.
Ezra Hawley, who departed this life
Sept. y^e 2nd, 1772, in y^e 24th year o.
her age.

Ruth Hawley, Wife of Ezra Hawley,
died Jan. 4, 1829, aged 75 years.

Eliza Hawley, Daughter of Mr.
Abijah & Mrs. Polly Hawley, died
March 23th, 1802, aged 14 months.

In Memory of
Ephraim Hawley, Junr., Son of
Mr. Ephraim & Mrs. Sarah Hawley,
who died April 11, 1777, aged 30
years; Also

William Hawley. This son Died
Jan^y — 1783, aged 47 years.

Here lyes Buried
Mrs. Annah Halley, Wife to Mr.
Gideon Halley. Dec^d Nov^r y^e 14th,
1727, in y^e 36th Year of her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mr. Gideon Halley, Dec^d Feb^y y^e
16th, 1731, in y^e 43^d year of His Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Annah Hawley, wife to Mr.
Gideon Hawley, Dec^d Nov. y^e 14,
1727, in y^e 36th year of her age.

Isaac Ebenezer, Son of Mr. Zalmon
& Mrs. Anna Hawley, died May 26th,
1811, aged 2 years & 5 months.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Sergt. James Hawley, Who De-
parted this Life Oct^{br} 7th, A. D., 1746,
in y^e 34th year of his age.

Mrs. Eunice Bennett, First Widow
of James Hawley & after, of Isaac
Bennitt, departed Sept. 6th, 1796, in
the 82^d year of her age.

Eunice Hawley Chapman, Born in Bridgeport, Died in Brooklyn, N. Y., May 12, 1863, aged 85 yrs. She was a light in the age in which she lived.

After three years incessant labour she obtained from the Legislature of New York, in the year 1818, the first law ever enacted in any country which gives to married women rights over their children and property. This has since been amended and adopted by most of the States of the Union.

Woman Call her Blessed.

Anna Hawley, Dau^r of Mr. James & Mrs. Eunice Hawley, Died Sept. 26, 1736, Aged 10 months & 10 Days.

Lucy, daughter of Mr. Samuel & Mrs. Lucy Hawley, died June 7, 1797, Aged 3 months.

Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Samuel & Mrs. Lucy Hawley, Dece^d June 7th, 1792, Aged 7 months.

In Memory of

Mrs. Molly Hawley, Dau^r of Mr. Samuel & Mrs. Sarah Hawley, who departed this life April 4th, 1765, Aged 17 years.

In memory of

Mrs. Sarah Hawley, Wife of Capt. David Hawley, who departed this life Febr^y the 8th, 1781, Aged 36 Years wanting 11 Days.

Here lyes Buried the Body of

Mr. Samuel Hawley, Who Departed this Life September 11th Anno Dom. 1749, Aged 31 years.

Here lyes y^e Body of

Deacon Thomas Hawley, Aged 44 years, Who dec^d May y^e 6th, 1722.

Here lyes y^e Body of

Mrs. Joanna Hawley, widow of Deacon Thomas Hawley, Who departed this life Jan. y^e 28, 1761, in y^e 84th year of her age.

In memory of

Mr. Thomas Hawley, who departed this Life Nov^r 19th, 1797, In the 59th year of his age.

In memory of

Mrs. Anna Hawley, Relict of Mr. Thomas Hawley, who died Dec. 24th, 1810, aged 67 years.

In memory of

Mr. Wolcott Hawley, who departed this Life Jan^y 9th, 1799, In the 62^d Year of His Age.

In memory of

Mrs. Ellen Hawley, Relict of Mr. Wolcott Hawley, who died Febr^y 9th, 1823, aged 81 years.

Interred is the remains of **Capt. James Hayt**, who died Nov^r 7th, 1787, aged 54 years. He was a Seaman in every sense of the word, and as such will be remembered.

Interred is the remains of

Mrs. Sarah Hayt, Relict of Capt. James Hayt, who died May 19th, 1807, aged 73 years. As her death is regretted may her conduct in life be remembered.

In Memory of

Jenny, the faithful servant of Capt. James and Mrs. Sarah Hayt. She died in June, 1807, a few weeks after her old mistress, regretting she could not go with her.

Born in Africa and supposed to be near 60 years old.

Worth does not depend on color.

This stone is erected in memory of **Mr. James Hayt**, who departed this life May 5, 1804, aged 48 years.

Mercy Nichols Hayt, Born Jan. 23^d, 1759; Died Sept. 8, 1839.

Mary Elizabeth Hayt, Born Aug. 11, 1781.

James Nichols Hayt, Born Mar. 16, 1784. Died at sea.

Munson Hayt, Born Aug. 12, 1786.

Philip Hayt, Born Sept. 3, 1789, Died Sept. 25, 1840.

James Hayt, Born Sept. 3, 1789, Died Oct. 6, 1789.

Frances Augusta Hayt, Born Aug. 19, 1800, Died Oct. 24, 1819.

Interred are the remains of

Josiah Sturgis Hayt, son of George & Deborah Hayt, Born 4th of April, 1800, Died 4th Jan. 1802.

In Memory of

George Holberton, son of Mr. Thomas & Mrs. Ruth Holberton, who died Oct. y^e 5th, 1777, aged 20 months.

Eunice Holberton, Died Sept. 20, 1848, \AA . 66 [or 63] years.

John Hopkins, Died June 28, 1808, Aged 51.

Mehetable, wife of John Hopkins, Died Sept. 16, 1824, In her 51 year.

In memory of

Susan, wife of James Hopkins, who died Jan. 6, 1837. \AA . 36 yrs, Modesty and meekness adorned her life, Faith and hope supported her in death.

In memory of

Catharine Hopkins, who died Sept. 20, 1825, in her 22 year.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

In memory of
Aaron Hubbell, who died Oct. 13,
1848, Æ . 87 years.

In memory of
Sarah, Wife of Aaron Hubbell, died
March 15, 1851, Æ . 84 years.

In memory of
Abel Hubbell, who died Jan. 6, 1832,
aged 103 yrs. 6 mo. & 26 ds.

Abell Hubbell, died May 28, 1852,
aged 62 years.

Ruth, wife of Abel Hubbell, died
Feb. 10, 1864, Æ . 69 yrs. 10 mo. &
4 ds.

This Stone is erected in memory of
Capt. Amos Hubbell, who died
July 2^d, 1801, aged 55 years.

Which also records the death of his
two sons,

Amos and Wilson: The former of
whom died at the Havannah on the
15th day of October, 1798, by a malign-
ant fever, aged 18 years.

And the latter was deprived of life whilst in
the proper discharge of the duties of his pro-
fession by an unprincipled officer of a French
Privateer, who deaf to the claims of justice and
the cries of humanity, plunged the sufferer into
the ocean and left him to perish in the waves,
on the 5th day of April, 1799, aged 26 years.

When sweet content serenely smiles around,
Like a fair summer evening, Ah! how soon
The charming scene is lost, the deepening
shades
Prevail and night approaches, dark and sad,
Till the last beams, faint glimmering die away.

In memory of
Mrs. Catharine Hubbell, Wife of
Mr. Amos Hubbell, who departed
this life January 4th, 1776, eight days
after the birth of her third child, in
the 23^d year of her age.

In youthful bloom death laid me down
Here to await the Trumpet's sound,
When God commands then Will I rise
And meet my Saviour in the skies.

In memory of
Amos Hubbell, son of Mr. Amos &
Mrs. Catharine Hubbell, Who died
Sept. 10th, 1777, in y^e 7th year of his
Age.

In memory of
Eleanor Hubbell, Daughter of Mr.
Amos & Mrs. Eleanor Hubbell, who
departed this life March 22^d, 1786,
Aged 1 year 9 months and 10 days.

In Memory of
Mr. Benjamin Hubbell, who de-
parted this life Febr^y 24th, 1793, in the
76th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Mary Hubbell, Relict of Mr.
Benjamin Hubbell, who died Augst
29th, 1813, aged 92 years & 1 month.

In Memory of
Mr. John Hubbell, Son of Mr. Ben-
jamin and Mrs. Mary Hubbell, who
died Febr^y 7th, 1808, aged 63 years, 3
months & 7 days.

In memory of
Elizabeth, wife of Mr. John Hubbell,
Died March 13, 1840, In the 90th year
of her age.

Here lyes the Body of
Mrs. Anne Hubbell, only daughter
of Mr. Benjamin & Mrs. Mary Hub-
bell, who departed this life May y^e 9th,
1770, in y^e 23^d year of her age.

Catharine Maria, Daughter of
Capt. Ezra & Mrs. Mary Alice Hub-
bell, died Aug^t 8th, 1801, aged 2 years
wanting 8 days.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Capt. Daniel Hubbell, Died De-
cember y^e 11th, 1735, in y^e 45th year
of his Age.

In memory of
Eunice Hubbell, relict of Mr. Abra-
ham Hubbell, who departed this life
Sept. 4, 1794, in the 38th year of her
age.

In memory of
Mr. Daniel Hubbell, who died
March 4th, 1801, in the 77th year of
his age.

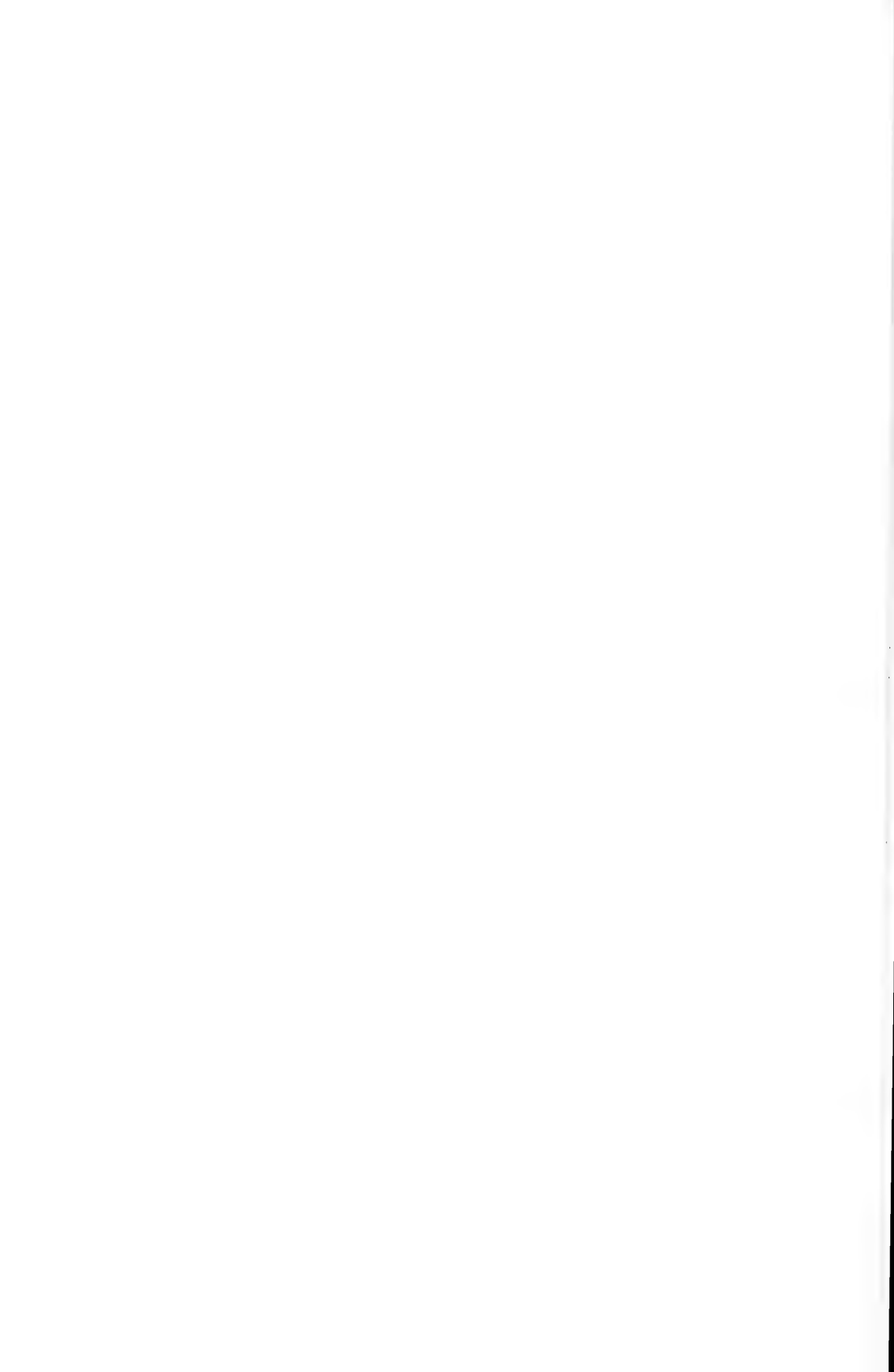
In memory of
Mrs. Sarah Hubbell, Relict of Mr.
Daniel Hubbell, who died April 11,
1801, in the 73^d year of her age.

In memory of
Miss Esther Hubbell, daughter of
Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Sarah Hubbell,
who died Nov^r 7th, 1802, in the 36th
year of her age.

In memory of
Miss Rebeckah Hubbell, Daughter
of Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Sarah Hubbell,
who died May 8, 1796, in the 39th year
of her age.

In memory of
Daniel Hubbell, Junr., son of Mr.
Daniel & Mrs. Sarah Hubbell, who
departed this life Jan. 12th, 1778, In
the 28th Year of his age.

You mourners all that see me die
Must quickly follow me.
Come and see me where I lie
A mouldering in the earth.



In memory of
Sarah Hubbell, who died Oct. 9,
1842, aged 81 yrs.

In memory of
Hezekiah Hubbell, Esqr., Son of
Richard & Penelope Hubbell, Who
Dep^d this life July 19th, 1784, Aged
56 years 4 months & 12 days.

Here lies interred the remains of
Capt. Isaac Hubbell, who departed
this life May the 22^d, 1787, in the 40
year of His Age.

Here lies interred the remains of
Mrs. Francis Hubbell, wife of
Capt. Isaac Hubbell, Who departed
this Life May the 21st, 1786, in the
34th year of her Age.

In memory of
James Hubbell, who died Sept. 15,
1827, aged 70 years.

In memory of
Mr. John Hubbell, who departed
this life April 8th, 1774, In the 85th
Year of his Age.

In memory of
Josiah Hubbell, son of Mr. Walter
& Mrs. Ruth Hubbell, Who died
Oct^r 14, 1765, Aged 15 months.

In memory of
David Hubbell, son of Mr. Walter
& Mrs. Ruth Hubbell, who died Oct^r
y^e 1st, 1777, Aged 16 months and 17
Days.

In memory of
Onessimus Hubbell, who died
Sept. 14th, 1824, in the 69th year of
his age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Onesimus Hubbell, son of Mr.
Joseph & Mrs. Keziah Hubbell, who
departed this life Decb^r 3^d, 1754, in y^e
23^d year of his age.

In memory of
Deacⁿ Richard Hubbell, who de-
parted this Life June 27th, 1787, In
the 93^d Year of his Age.
Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.

In memory of
Mrs. Penelope Hubbell, Relict to
Deacⁿ Richard Hubbell, who departed
this Life Augst 29th, 1791, In the 87th
year of her Age.

For they rest from their labors and their works
do follow them.

In memory of
Mr. Benjamin Hubbell, Eldest
Son of Deacⁿ Richard Hubbell, who
departed this Life Sept^r 17th, AD
1783, in the 62^d Year of his age.
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

In memory of
Richard Hubbell, who died at the
city of N. Y., July 16, 1829, in his
87 year.

In memory of
Roxana, wife of Richard Hubbell,
who died Dec. 28, 1805, in her 60
year.

In memory of
Charles Hubbell, son of Mr. Rich-
ard & Mrs. Roxana Hubbell, who
departed this Life June 15th, 1786,
Aged 1 Year & 7 Days.

In memory of
Penelope, Daughter of Richard &
Roxana Hubbell, who died Feb. 21,
1864, .A.E. 92 years.

Here lies y^e Body of
Phylo Hubbill, Son of Mr. Richard
Hubbill, Jun. & Mrs. Roxane his
wife who departed this Life Feb^r the
13, 1774, Aged 4 years.

Happy the child who privileged by Fate
to Shorten labour & Lighter wait,
Received but yesterday the gift of breath
ordered to morrow to return to death.

In memory of
Sarah, Wife of Jabez Hubbell, died
Jan^y ye 12th, 1754, in ye 22 year of her
age.

In memory of
Mr. Stephen Hubbell, who depart-
ed this life April 29th, 1792, In the
98th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Abigail, Wife of Mr. Stephen
Hubbell, Who died Augst 1st, 1777,
In the 84 year of her age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Rebeckah Hubbell, Daughter of
Mr. Stephen & Mrs. Rebeckah Hub-
bell, Who departed this life, Nov^r y^e
9, 1754, y^e 19th year of her age.

In memory of
Thaddeus Hubbell, who died Nov.
30, 1849, .A.E. 85 yrs.

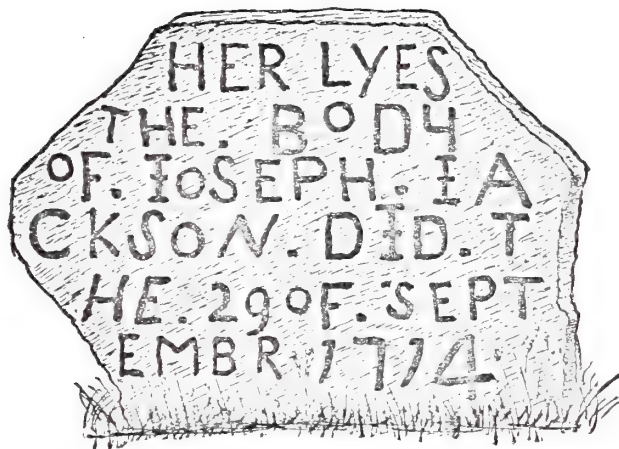
In memory of
Eunice Hubbell, wife of Thaddeus
Hubbell, who died May 1, 1838, aged
68 yrs.

Bille Jackson, Son of Mr. Isaac &
Mrs. Rachel Jackson, Died Augst 2^d,
1739, Aged 5 days.

Henry Jackson, who died Septem-
ber 15, 1717, aged 38 years.

James, Son of Mr. Samuel & Mrs.
Peninah Jackson, Departed this life
March y^e 19th, 1757, In y^e 6th Year of
his Age.





Here lies the Body of
Joseph Jackson, Died the 29 of
Septemb^r, 1714.

M. J., Nov. 13, 1712. [Probably a
Jackson.]

R. J. M^r 14, 1712. [Probably a
Jackson.]

R. J. D. S.

E. P. 1731.

In memory of
Eliphalet Jennings, who died
Aug. 22, 1839, aged 85 yrs.

In memory of
Sarah Ross, wife of Eliphalet Jen-
nings, who died June 6, 1839, aged 83
years.

James Jennings, Died Feb. 4,
1869, Aged 76.

Mary E., daughter of Thomas &
Mary E. Jenkins, died Oct. 19, 1842,
Æ. 4 yrs.

Ira Jones, died May 25th, 1836, Aged
65 years.

Charity, Wife of Ira Jones, died May
14, 1845, Aged 73 years.

Mary B., Daughter of Christopher
& Margaret Keiser, died Mar. 6, 1862,
Æ. 3 yrs. 10 mos. & 10 ds.

In memory of
Mr. Patrick Keeler, who died Oct^r
15th, 1829, in the 76th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Anna Keeler, Wife of Mr.
Patrick Keeler, who died Dec^r 21st,
1815, in the 63^d year of her age.

Sarah, Wife of Patrick Keeler, Died
Aug. 20, 1851, Æ. 80.
J. & W. K.

In memory of
Mr. Ezra Kirtland, who died Aug.
22^d, 1800, in the 70 year of his age.

In Memory of
Mrs. Olive Kirtland, Relict of Mr.
Ezra Kirtland, who died Sept. 23^d,
1803, in the 60th year of her age.

In Memory of
Olive Kirtland, Daughter of Ezra
Kirtland, Jun., who died July 15,
1775, in the 3^d year of her Age.

In memory of
Mr. Ezra Kirtland, Jr., who died
Dec. 27th, 1799, in the 47th year of his
age.

In memory of
Olive Kirtland, Daughter of Mr.
Ezra & Mrs. Sarah Kirtland, who
died Aug. 14th, 1790, Aged 14 years
& 2 months.

In memory of
Mr. Zebulon Kirtland, who died
Jan^y 2^d, 1803, in the 48th year of his
age.

In memory of
Elizabeth, widow of Zebulon Kirt-
land, who died Jan. 5, 1842, aged 90
years.

In memory of
Mrs. Freelove Knapp, Wife of
Mr. Joseph Knapp & Dau^{tr} of Mr.
Ebenezer & Mrs. Patience Plumb,
who died Nov^r 24th, 1771, in y^e 31st
year of her age.

In memory of
Joseph Knapp, Jun., Son of Mr. Joseph & Mrs. Freeloove Knapp, died Augst the 20th, 1767. Aged 2 years.

In memory of
Mr. John Knapp, who died August 3^d, 1795, in the 52 year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Hannah Knapp, Wife of Mr. John Knapp, who died Jan^y. 28th, 1796, in the 76th year of her age.

In memory of
Robert Knapp, who died April 11, 1834, aged 52 years & 10 months.

Mother
Sally, wife of Robert Knapp, Died Aug. 15, 1861, Aged 76 yrs. 1 mo. & 8 Ds.

To the memory of
Mahala Willson Knapp, Daughter of Mr. Robert & Mrs. Sally Knapp (a very promising child) born July 10th, 1804, and died July 18th, 1807, aged 3 years & 8 days.

In memory of
Mrs. Anna Knowles, first the wife of Mr. Joseph Sturges, late of Stamford, dec^d, and last the wife of Mr. William Knowles, late of New Milford, dec^d. She died July 26th, 1801, in the 80th year of Her Age.

Mrs. Abigail Lacey.

Hannah Summers. Wife of Edward Lacey, died Oct. 14, 1755. aged about 43 years.

In memory of
Mr. Benjamin Lacey, who departed this life Sept. 13th, AD 1784, aged 45 years on the same day.

In memory of
Mrs. Margaret Lacy, Wife of y^e late Mr. Benjamin Lacey, who departed this life, Sept. 1, A. D., 1792, in the 52^d year of her age.

Daniel Lacey, died Dec. 17, 1828, in his 86 year.

Tabitha Lacey, wife of Daniel Lacey, died Aug. 9, 1814, in the 64 year of her age.

John Lacey, died June 25, 1856, Æ 79 yrs. & 9 mo.

In memory of
Eunice, wife of John Lacey, who died Feb. 17, 1840, aged 56 years.

In memory of
Mr. John Lacey, who departed this Life Feb^y 10th, 1793, In the 84th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Mary Lacey, Relict of Mr. John Lacey, who died April 1, 1810, in the 91st year of her age.

Josiah Lacey, Esq., departed this life Oct. 28th, 1812, in the 67th Year of his age.

He was a Captain in the Revolutionary Army and a leading citizen.

In memory of
Mrs. Judith Lacey, Wife of Capt. Josiah Lacey, who departed this life June y^e 3^d, 1780, aged 31 years & 5 months wanting 3 days.

In memory of
Mrs. Ruth Lacey, Wife to Capt. Josiah Lacey, who departed this life April 18th, 1788, aged 27 years & 8 months wanting 1 Day.

In memory of
Mrs. Molly Lacey, Wife of Capt. Josiah Lacey, who departed this Life Jan^y 30th, 1793, aged 32 years 8 months & 12 days.

In memory of
Mrs. Anna Lacey, Wife of Josiah Lacey, Esqr., Who departed this life April 7, A. D. 1812, aged 46 years 3 months and 2 days.

Nathaniel Hazard, son to Capt. Josiah & Mrs. Molly Lacey, Departed this life May 9, 1792, aged 14 months, wanting 3 Days.

Levi L. Lacey, Died April 1, 1845, Aged 33 yrs.

In memory of
Michael Lacey, who died Nov. 12, 1835, Æ. 51 yrs.

In memory of
Betsey, wife of Michael Lacey, who died Dec. 14, 1823, aged 38 years.

Robert Lacey, died Nov. 23, 1832, aged 22 years.

In memory of
Sarah Lacey, who died May 3, 1838, aged 65 years.

In memory of
Squire Lacey, who died Dec. 27, 1819, in his 31st year.

Urban Lacey, died March 20, 1877, Aged 72 yrs.

In memory of her that was once
Miss Ruth Winton, Born Dec. 2^d, 1731; married to Mr. Joseph Brinsmaid Oct^r, 1748; and secondly to Dr. W^m Little, Nov^r 2^d, 1762. She departed this Life for Immortality Dec^r 2^d, 1784, aged 53 Years.
Her remains are buried beneath this Stone.



In memory of
Elenor, wife of Eaden Leavens, who died June 30, 1835, Æ . 55 years.

In memory of
Mrs. Eunice, Relict of Mr. George Lyman, who died Oct. 10, 1819, aged 67 years.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mr. Mathew Mackhard, Who Died Febr^y 9th, Anno Domni 1736/7, in y^e 28th Year of His Age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mr. Mathew Mackhard, son of Mr. Mathew & Mrs. Sarah Mackhard, Who was drowned July y^e 22^d, 1757, in y^e 21st Year of His Age.

Mary Mackhard, Dau^{tr} of Mr. Mathew & Mrs. Sarah Mackhard, Died Jan^y 30th, 1737, Aged 2 years & 6 months.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mr. John Mallet, who Departed this life September 28th, Anno Domⁿⁱ 1745, in y^e 72^d year of his age.

Here lyes the body of
Sarah Mallet, Wife of John Mallet, Died Dec^r y^e 5th, 1742, in y^e 26 year of her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Joanna Mallet, widow to Mr. John Mallet, who departed this life Sept. y^e 16, 1764, in y^e 101st year of her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Huldah Mallett, Dau^{tr} of Mr. John Mallett, Junr., who died Oct. y^e 29, 1758, in y^e 2^d year of her age.

Laura, Daughter of Mr. Lewis & Mrs. Anna Mallet, died April 3^d, 1795, Aged 2 years 1 month & 8 days.

Henry Manning, Died Jan. 5, 1852, Æ . 48 years.

In memory of
Mr. David Meaker, who died Nov. 24th, 1828, in the 73^d year of his age.

In memory of
Esther Meaker, Wife of Mr. David Meaker, who died May 26th, 1812, in the 48th year of her age.

Mrs. Polly Meeker, Died Aug. 29, 1817, Æ . 26 yrs.

Nathan S. Meeker, Died of Yellow Fever at Staten Island, N. Y., Sept. 27, 1821, Æ . 31 yrs.

Ann R. Middlebrook, Died Dec. 1, 1850, Æ . 24 yrs.

In memory of
Anne, wife of Anson Morehouse, who died May 11, 1823, aged 37 years.

In memory of
Lorintha, dau^{tr} of Anson & Anne Morehouse, who died Sept. 10, 1841, Aged 30 years.

In memory of
Mrs. Eunice Morehouse, Wife of Mr. Lyman Morehouse, Who died March 14th, 1800, In the 27th year of her age.

In memory of
Sarah Morehouse, wife of Isaac Morehouse, who died Aug. 22, 1837, aged 86.

In memory of
Abigail, wife of Samuel Morehouse, who died Aug. 29, 1826, aged 44 years.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mrs. Sarah Morris, wife to Mr. Daniel Morris, who departed this life April the 16, 1761, in y^e 48th year of her age.

Here lyes the Body of
Huldah Nicholls, wife to Mr. John Nicholls, who died April 16, 1759, in y^e 49th year of her age.

In memory of
Charles S., who died March 23, 1835, aged 3 yrs. & 6 mo.

Also of
John A., who died Nov. 15, 1836, aged 14 mo.
Sons of John W. & Susan Nichols.

In memory of
Mr. John Nichols, who died Nov. 21st, 1801, in the 57th year of his age.

In memory of
Phebe, relict of Mr. John Nichols, who died March 3, 1835, Æ . 82 years.

In Memory of
Mrs. Mehetable Nichols, Wife of Mr. John Nichols, who departed this life, April 9th, 1785, in y^e 32^d year of her age.

[A TABLET.]

Sacred to the Memory of
Philip Nichols, Esq., who departed this Life May 13th, 1807, in the 82^d year of his age.

Tears in regret in sympathy we give,
That such superior excellence should die;
But dear to memory wilt thou ever live,
Blest shade whose meed is immortality.

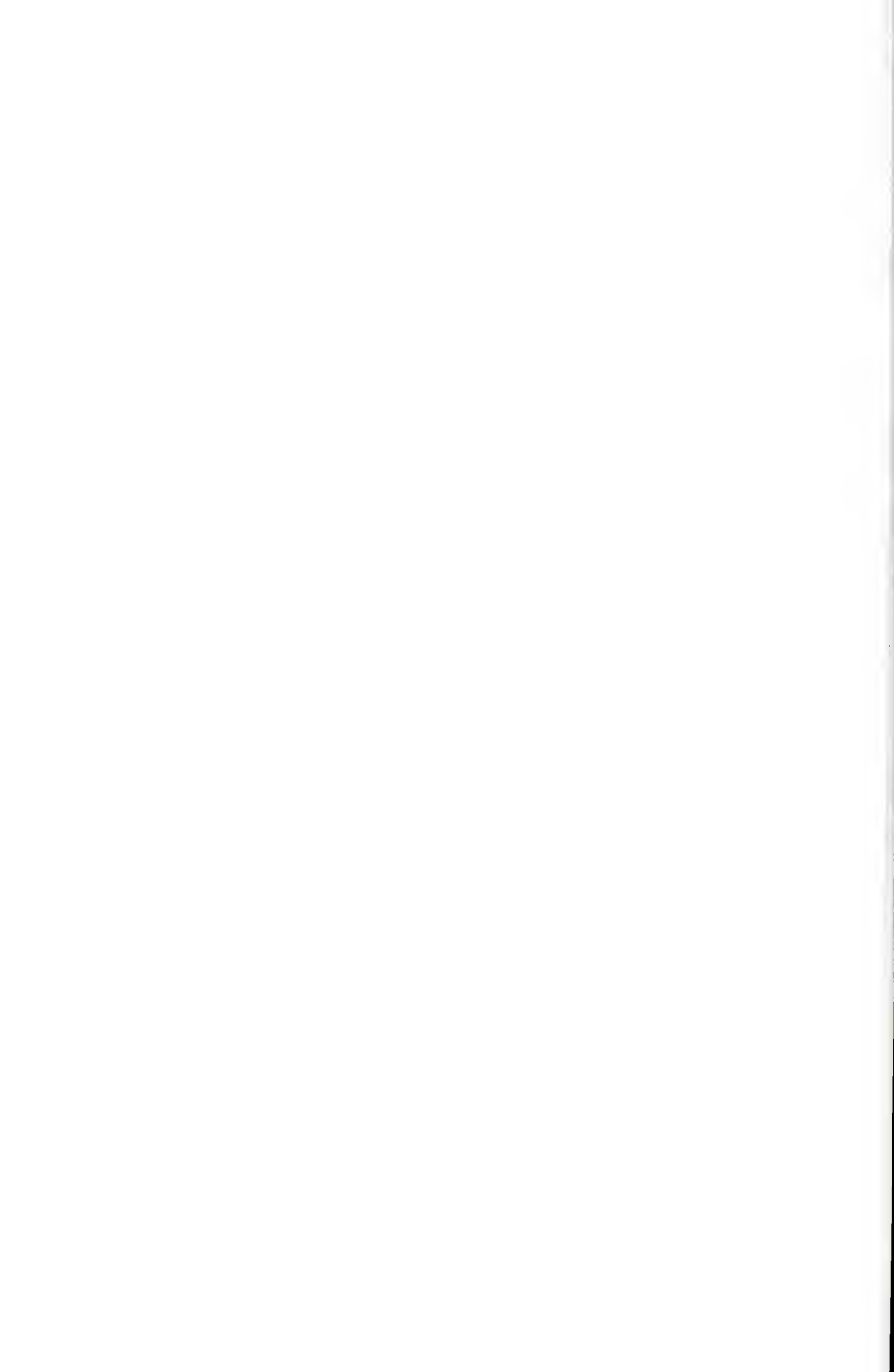


Sacred to the memory of
PHILIP NICHOLS Esq.
who departed this Life
May 13th. 1807.
in the 82^d year of his age.

*Tears of regret in sympathy we give,
That such superior excellence should die,
But dear to memory will thou ever live.
Blest shade whose meed is immortality.*

Sacred to the memory of
M^{rs} MARY NICHOLS late Consort
of **PHILIP NICHOLS Esq.**
who departed this life
May 13th 1811.
In the 78th year of her age.

*The soul of origin divine
God's glorious image freed from day
In heaven's eternal sphere shall shine
A star of day.*



Sacred to the memory of
Mrs. Mary Nichols, late Consort
 of Philip Nichols, Esq., who departed
 this life, May 13th, 1811, in the 78th
 year of her age.

The soul of origin divine,
 God's glorious image freed from clay,
 In Heaven's eternal sphere shall shine,
 A star of day.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Rebeckah Nickols, wife to
 Mr. John Nickols, who departed this
 life, Sept. 12th, 1749, in y^e 36th year of
 her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Huldah Nichols, Dau^{tr} of Mr. John
 & Mrs. Rebeckah Nichols, who died
 Sept. 4th, 1753, in y^e 13th year of her
 age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Sarah Nichols, Dau^{tr} of Elijah &
 Mrs. Huldah Nichols, who departed
 this life June y^e 4th, 1753, in y^e 19th
 year of her Age.

William Nichols, Died July 21,
 1837, Aged 82 yrs.

Philip E., his son, Died Sept. 26,
 1855, Aged 48 years.

Hannah Nichols, Died Oct. 14,
 1855, \mathcal{A} . 69.

Here lyes the Body of
Mrs. Abigail Odell, Wife to Wil-
 liam Odell, who died Jan. ——— 40th
 year of her age.*

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Deborah Odell, wife of Lieut.
 Hezekiah Odell, who departed this
 life June 27, 1756, in y^e 55th year of
 her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Bulah Odell, Dau^{tr} of Lieut. Heze-
 kiah & Mrs. Deborah Odell, who died
 June 22^d, 1756, in y^e 27th year of her
 age.

Here lyes buried y^e Body of
Mr. John Odell, Who Departed
 this life June 1st, *Anno Dom.* 1743.
 Aged 77 Years.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Sarah Odell, wife to Serg.
 John Odell, who died Octobr 25th,
 A. D. 1743, in y^e 79th year of her age.

In memory of
Samuel Odell, Esqr., who Depart-
 ed this Life June the 7th, A. D. 1775,
 in the 69th year of his Age.

* The dates are entirely gone by the falling
 off of a part of the slate stone.

In memory of
Mrs. Johannah Odell, Wife of
 Mr. Samuel Odell, who departed this
 Life June 11th, 1776, in the 37th year
 of her age.

Justis Odell, died January y^e 29th,
 1767, Aged 3 Days & 4 hours.

Squire Odell, died January y^e 29,
 1767, Aged 3 Days & 4 months.

The Twins of Mr. Nehemiah
 Smith Odell & Mrs. Eunice his Wife.

In memory of
Miss Temperance Odell, who de-
 parted this life Octobr 17, 1794, Aged
 27 years 8 months & 3 days.

Too early lost, just in the bloom of youth,
 Go noblest patern of exalted truth,
 Absolved from earth that peaceful shore ascend
 Where love inhabits, love that knows no end.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Nehemiah, son of Will^m Odell, Dec^d
 March y^e 26, 1727, in y^e 8th year of
 his age.

Here lyes v^e Body of
Nathaniel Odell, Son of Mr. Wil-
 liam & Mrs. Sarah Odell, Who Died
 July 15th, 1746, in y^e 3^d year of his
 age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Ebenezer Odell, Son of Mr. William
 Odell, Who died Octobr 7th, 1743, in y^e
 19th Year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Abigail, Wife of Joel Parish,
 who died June 1st, 1777, in her 37th
 year.

Abraham Parrott, died Nov. 16,
 1825, \mathcal{A} . 48.

Lord we commit our souls to thee,
 Accept the sacred trust.

Lucy Wells, Wife of Abraham Par-
 rott, Died Sept. 8, 1856, \mathcal{A} . So.

Revive this nobler part of ours
 And watch our sleeping dust.

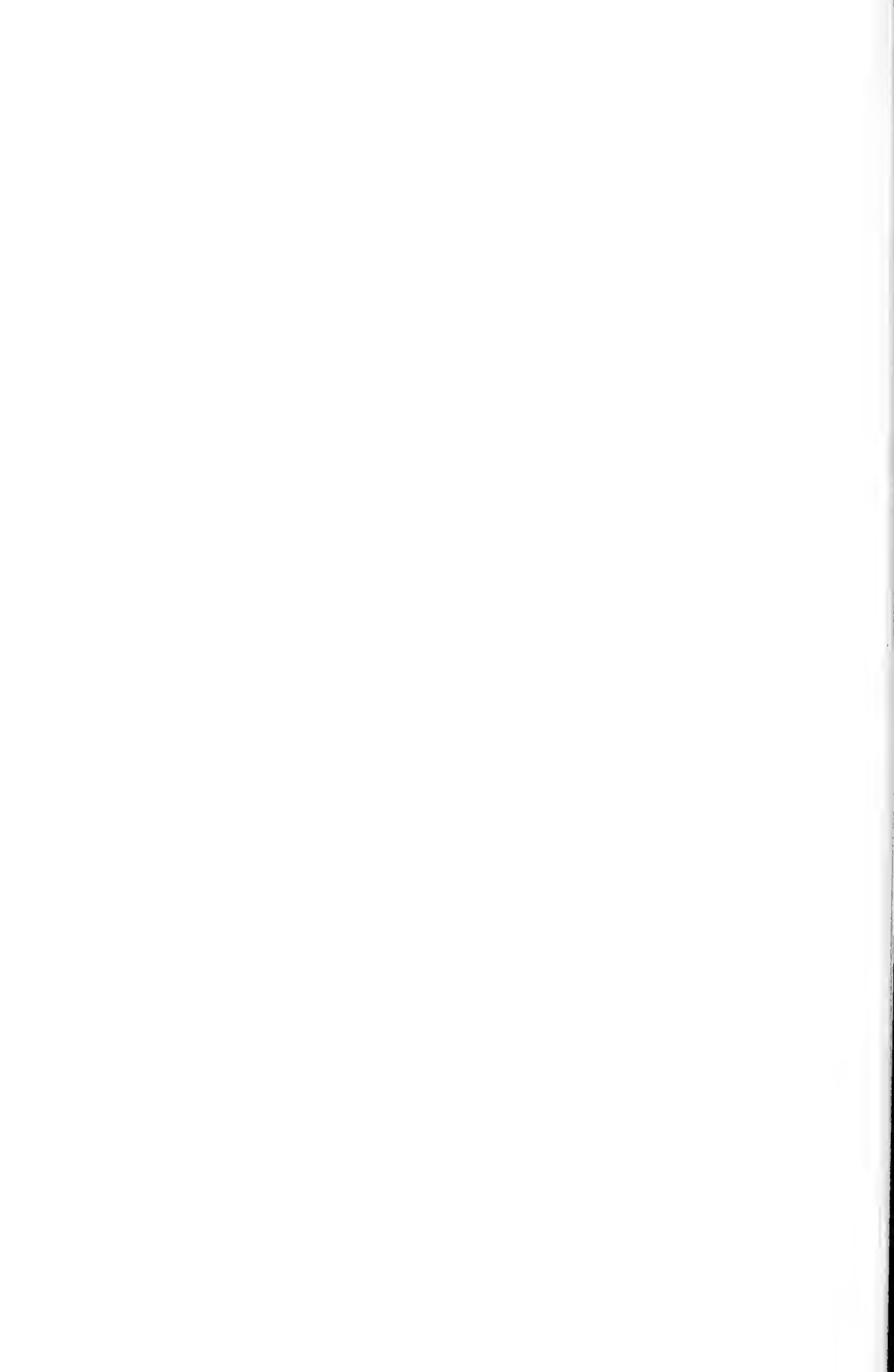
In memory of
Henry O. Parrott, Son of Abraham
 & Lucy Parrott, who died July 8, 1826,
 aged 13 yrs. 11 mos. & 16 days.

In memory of
Mary E. Parrott, daughter of
 Abraham & Lucy Parrott, who died
 Sept. 23, 1826, aged 15 yrs. & 11 mo.

Thomas Parrott, died Dec. 8, 1851,
 \mathcal{A} . 53.

Sally, Wife of Thomas Parrott, died
 Aug. 17, 1839, \mathcal{A} . 49.

In memory of
Isaac Patchin, who died Feb. 11,
 1832, aged 85 yrs.



In memory of
Elijah Peet, who died Nov. 26, 1841,
aged 81 years.

In memory of
Anna Peet, wife of Elijah Peet, who
died June 1, 1843, aged 76 years.

This monument is sacred to the mem-
ory of

Mrs. Anne Pixley, Relict of Mr.
William Pixley, who died Sept. 20th,
1800, in the 69th year of her age.

Here lyes Buried ye Body of
Mrs. Hannah Porter, Wife to
Ensign John Porter, Who departed
this life Octob^r y^e 28th, 1763, in y^e 61st
year of her age.

Nathaniel Porter, son of John &
Lucy Porter, died June 21st, 1803, in
the 14th year of his age.

In memory of
Mr. Samuel Porter, who departed
this life Sept^r 13th, 1795, In the 78th
year of his Age.

In memory of
Mrs. Abiah Porter, Relict of Mr.
Samuel Porter, who died July 9th,
1801, In the 76th year of her age.

In memory of
Mrs. Sarah Porter, Wife of Mr.
Samuel Porter, Jun^r, who died April
3^d, 1805, In the 25th year of her age.

Depository of
Miss Betsey Raymond, who, in
the bloom of life was snatched from
her friends, and y^e companions of her
youth, Jany 14th, A. D. 1792, In the
17th year of her age.

Mrs. Ruth Risley, Relict of Mr.
Timothy Risley, of Egg Harbour,
dec^d, and Daughter of Mr. David
Wells of this Town, Dec^d, died Jany
2^d, 1794, aged 36 years.

Here lies entombed the Remains of
The Reverend Robert Ross, Sarah
Ross, his Wife, and James Merrick
Ross, their Son.

The Reverend Robert Ross, A.M., a native
of Ireland; in his infancy brought into this
Country. Was sometime a Tutor at the College
of New Jersey, where he also received his edu-
cation; Afterwards Pastor of the Presbyte-
rian Church in this Society, over which he was
ordained November 28th, 1753, and in which he
labored in word and doctrine, 43 years.

A person who long sustained a high charac-
ter for Christian Literature and general knowl-
edge. In his principles, orthodox; In his
preaching practical and judicious. He advo-
cated the truths of the Gospel by doctrine and
example, and was, therefore, a pious guide &
instructor.

He died Augst. 29, 1799, aged 73
years.

Mrs. Sarah Ross, died the same
day with her husband, aged 52. And
James Merrick Ross, 13 days after
his parents, aged 10 years.

O thou gloomy monarch!
Are these the trophies of thy conquering arms?
Nor reverend hoary age, nor blooming youth,
Nor boasted strength escape thy fatal dart!

These seem to speak
With silent horror to my shivering heart;
Bid me survey my swift approaching doom,
And view the dark retreat which waits my
coming.

This monument is erected by Elipha-
let Jennings, to the memory of his
Father-in-law and family, — 1801.

Here lyes Buried
James Ross, son of Rev. Robert &
Mrs. Sarah Ross, Born Sept. 12, 1758,
Drowned Sept. 10, 1760.

Sacred to the memory of
Rev^d Stephen Royce, who depart-
ed this life Augst 3^d, 1802, in the 47th
year of his age.

Here in death's cold embrace this body lies,
The soul is gone to mansions in the skies;
His dust must sleep, his voice be heard no more,
Till the last trump shall sound from shore to
shore,
Then burst the bands of death with sweet sur-
prise,
And in his Saviour's glorious form arise.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Edmund Rowland, who de-
parted this life April the 13th, 1769, in
the 41st year of his age.

In memory of
Henry Rowland, who died June
19th, 1775, aged about 84 years.
Erected by Rowland B. Lacey in 1879.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Tamar Rowland, wife to
Mr. Henry Rowland, who died April
y^e 21st, A. D. 1737, in y^e 42^d year of
her age.

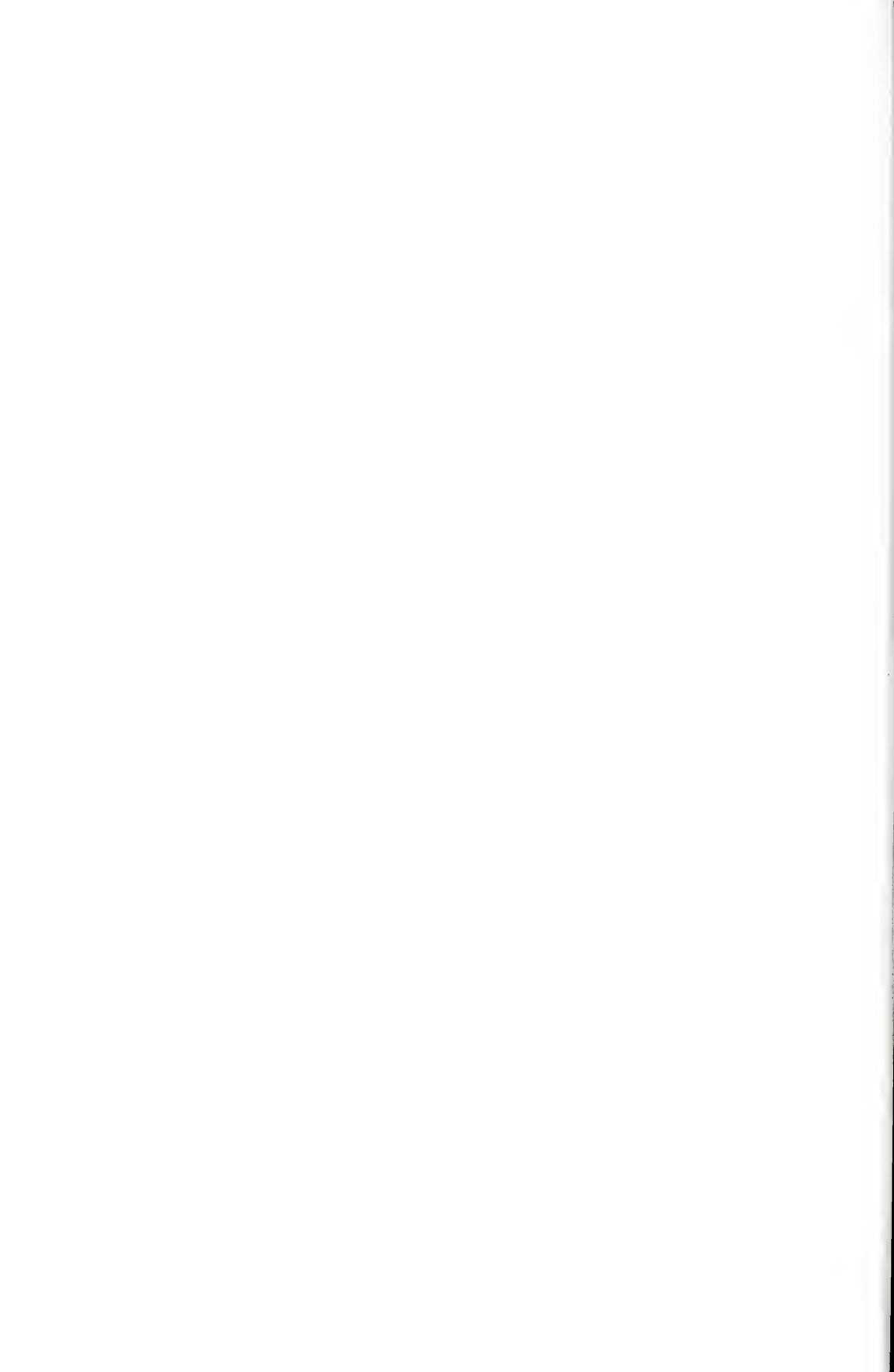
Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Thomas Sanford, who de-
parted this life May y^e 20, 1757, in y^e
83^d year of his age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Hannah Sanford, wife to
Mr. Thomas Sanford, who Departed
this life May 18th, 1755, in y^e 75 year
of her age.

In memory of
Deacon Abel Seelye, who died May
9th, 1810, in the 85th year of his age.

Marcy, wife of Dea. Abel Seeley, died
March 5, 1819, aged 95.

Hannah, Daughter of Mr. Abel &
Mrs. Marcy Seely, died Nov^r y^e 19,
1746, aged 1 year & 11 months.



This Stone was erected by Seth Seelye, Jun. in commemoration of his late wife,

Abigail Seelye, who died July 8th, 1800, in the 31st year of her age.

In memory of
Ezra Seelye, died Aug. 14, 1827, aged 81 years.

Mary, wife of Ezra Seelye, died Aug. 7, 1822, Æ . 81.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Ensign Nathan Seelye, who departed this life April 30, 1766, in y^e 52^d year of his age.

Here lyeth y^e Body of
Eunice, y^e wife of Nathan Seelye, who died June 6th, 1745, in y^e 28th year of her Age.

Jennett E., wife of George B. Seeley, died Jan. 7, 1850, Æ . 35.

Mary E., their daughter, died Dec. 22, 1847, Æ . 6 yrs. & 2 months.

In Memory of
Nathaniel Seelye, who departed this life March 27, 1786, in y^e 85 year of His Age.

In memory of
Mrs. Elizabeth Seelye, wife of Mr. Nathaniel Seelye, who departed this life December 9th, 1781, in y^e 79th year of Her Age.

In memory of
Lieut. Nathan Seelye, who departed this Life June 24th, 1787, Aged 41 Years wanting 21 days.

In memory of
Mrs. Deborah Seelye, Relict of Lieut. Nathan Seelye, who died Sept. 22^d, 1811, in the 69th year of her age.

In memory of
Polly, wife of Roswell Seeley, who died Sept. 9, 1838, aged 46 years.

James H., son of Roswell & Polly Seeley, Died Nov. 23, 1848, Æ . 19.

In memory of
Ruth Seelye, wife of Joseph Seeley, who died Oct. 8, 1815, aged 29 years.

In memory of
Mrs. Betsey Seelye, wife of Mr. Joseph Seeley, who died Dec. 24, 1824, aged 40 years.

In memory of
Mary E., daughter of Joseph & Ruth Seeley, who died May 11, 1835, aged 24 years.

Here lyes the Body of
Seth Seelye, Dec^d July y^e 29th, 1727, in y^e 18th year of His Age.

In Memory of
Deacⁿ Seth Seelye, who died May 23^d, 1817, in the 79 yr of his age. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

In Memory of
Mrs. Joanna Seelye, Wife of Deacⁿ Seth Seelye, Who departed this life Febr^y 25th, 1797, In the 62^d year of her age.

In Memory of
Miss Anne Seelye, Daughter of Deacⁿ Seth & Mrs. Joanna Seelye, who died June 25th, 1815, in the 53^d year of her age.

In memory of
Seth Seelye, who died Nov. 2, 1844, aged 28 yrs.
Don't mourn my wife and children so dear,
I am not dead but sleeping here ;
My peace is made, my grave you see,
Prepare for death and follow me.

We know that our redeemer lives,
We trust the promises he gives,
And part in hope to meet above
Where all is joy and all is love.

Seth Seelye, son of Mr. Samuel O. & Mrs. Sally Seelye, died March 30th, 1814, aged 16 months & 16 days.

Abiah Sherman, Died May 28, 1717, aged 19 years.

Elnathan Sherman, aged about 8 years old, Who died April 15, 1717.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mr. Amos Sherman, Who Departed this life, Decem^r 11th, 1760, in y^e 36th year of his age.

Sacred to the memory of
Anson Sherman, who died at Orange Springs, New Jersey, July 19, 1835, Æ . 44 yrs.

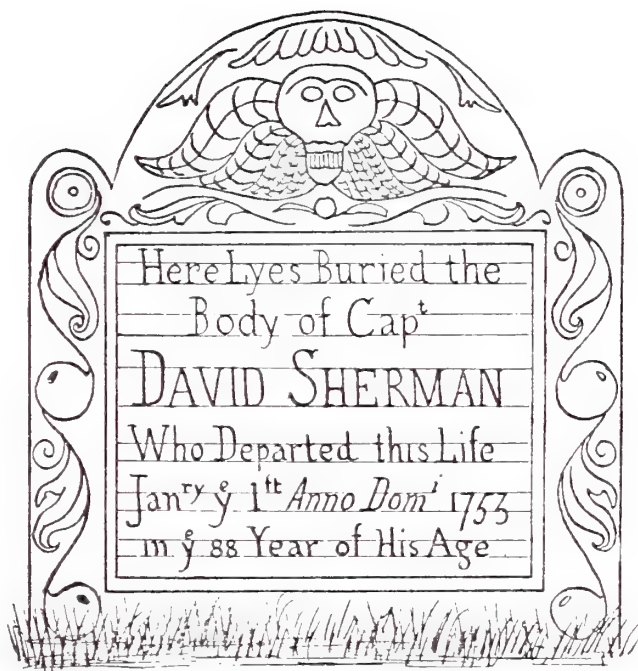
Here lyes Buried the Body of
Capt. David Sherman, who departed this life Jan^r y^e 1 Anno Domⁿⁱ, 1753, in y^e 85th year of his age.

[See opposite.]

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mrs. Marcy Sherman, Wife to Capt. David Sherman Who Departed this life Aug. 19 A. D. 1745, in y^e 75th year of her age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Lieut. David Sherman, Who Departed this life July y^e 8th Anno Domⁿⁱ, 1752, in y^e 60 year of His Age.

Here lyes the Body of
Mrs. Dinah Sherman, Wife to Mr. David Sherman, Dec^d April y^e 13th, 1732, in ye 37th Year of Her Age.



Sarah Thompson, 2^d Wife of Lieut. David Sherman, ———.

Here lyes Buried the Body of **Mr. David Sherman**, Who was killed by lightning in the House of God at public worship on the 25th of July, 1771, in y^e 35th Year of His Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of **Mrs. Mary Sherman**, Wife to Mr. David Sherman and Dau^{tr} of Mr. Stephen & Mrs. Eunice Starling, Who departed this Life May y^e 25th, 1765, in y^e 25th Year of Her Age.

This Stone is erected to the memory of **Capt. David Sherman**, who died August 22^d, 1810, in the 54th year of his age.

Also of his son, **David Sherman**, who was supposed to be lost on his passage from Washington in North Carolina to New York with his whole crew in the schooner Recovery about the 20th of Decem^{br}, 1800, in the 25th year of his age.

In Memory of **Mrs. Rebecca**, Wife of Capt. David Sherman, who died Mar. 4, 1825, aged 70 years.

In Memory of **Isaac Sherman**, son of Mr. David & Mrs. Rebecca Sherman, died March y^e 19th, A. D. 1784, Aged 14 months & 5 days.

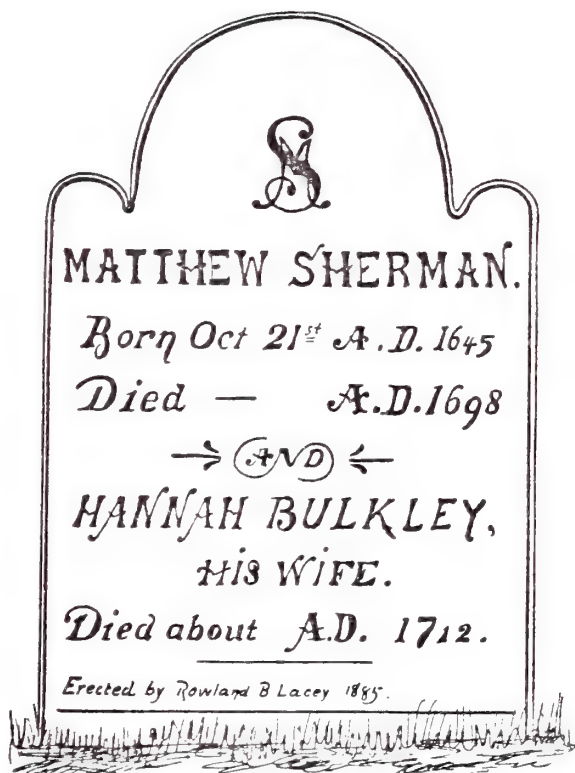
In memory of **Mr. Ebenezer Sherman**, who died Sept. 28th, 1819, aged 66 years.

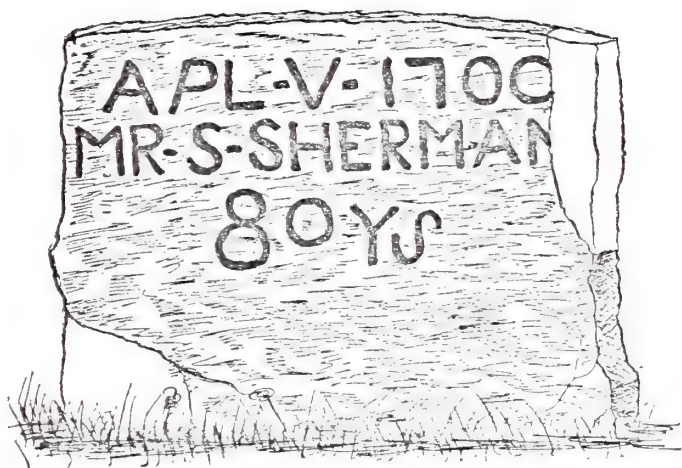
Hervey Sherman, son of Mr. Sterling & Mrs. Anna Sherman, died July 1st, 1805, aged 2 months & 15 days.

In memory of **Mrs. Jemima Sherman**, Relict of Mr. Nathaniel Sherman, who died Feb^r 10th, 1806, in the 77th year of her age.

Matthew Sherman, born Oct. 21, A. D., 1645, died ——— A. D., 1698.

And **Hannah Bulkley**, his wife, died about 1712.





Here lies the body of
Deacn Seth Sherman, Who departed this life, August 7th, 1807, in the 53 year of his age.
Pause and consider where the good man lies,
Mark well his path and follow to the skies.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Andrew Sherwood, Who departed this Life, Nov^r 23^d, 1767, in the 47th Year of His Age.

In Memory of
Anna W., daughter of Charles & Miranda B. Sherwood, who died July 19, 1837, Æ . 3 mos. & 22 ds.

David Sherwood, 1763.

This monument is erected to the memory of
Capt. David Sherwood, who departed this life, July 17th, 1811, in the 49th year of his age.

Time was, like me, he life possesest,
And time shall be when I shall rest.

Ephraim S. Sherwood, died Nov. 3, 1867, Æ . 89 yrs. & 9 mo.

In memory of
Sally, wife of Ephraim Sherwood, who died Oct. 25, 1826, aged 44 years.

Sarah, wife of Ephraim S. Sherwood, died April 4, 1857, Æ . 76 ys. & 10 mo.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Gurdon Sherwood, who departed this life August y^e 22nd, 1772, in y^e 32nd year of his age.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Capt. John Sherwood, who departed this Life Sept. the 17th, 1779, in y^e 74th year of His Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Mary Sherwood, Wife to Capt. John Sherwood, Who departed this Life June y^e 12th, 1767, in y^e 58th year of Her Age.

Lucy, Daughter of Mr. Philemon and Mrs. Hepzibah Sherwood, was born June 10, 1795, & died March 27, 1799.

Here lyes the Body of
Capt. Matthew Sherwood, departed this life y^e 26th of October, 1715, in y^e 72 year of his age.

Here lyes the Body of
Mrs. Mary Sherwood, wife to Capt. Matthew Sherwood, aged about 87 years. Dec^d December 25, 1730.

Here lyes the Body of
Matthew Sherwood, that deces^d 22 year, 1700 [or 1709.]

Here lies the Body of
Nathaniel Sherwood, who died Octob^r 2^d, 1784, in the 78th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Mercy Sherwood, Wife of Mr. Nathaniel Sherwood, who died July 26, 1779, in the 76th year of her age.

Philemon Sherwood, died April 19, 1838, aged 76 years.

Hepsibah, wife of the late Philemon Sherwood, died Sept. 9, 1848, Æ . 82 yrs.

In memory of
Nathaniel Sherwood, son of Mr. Philemon and Mrs. Hepzibah Sherwood, who was drowned May 11, 1807, in the 20th year of his age.

Dear lovely Son and Brother
Vain is the wish that calls thee back again,
Vain is the wish, heaven is thy natal shore;
There free from sorrow, free from every pain
To thee the ills of life are known no more.

Rebecca J., daughter of Mr. Charles & Mrs. Lois Sherwood, died Dec. 30, 1818, aged 7 months & 23 days.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Capt. Samuel Sherwood. Dec^d Nov^r y^e 10, *Anno Domini* 1732, in the 52 year of His Age.

Here lyes the Body of
Rebekah Sharwood. Wife to Capt. Samuel Sharwood, Aged 40 Years. Dec^d May 16th, 1721-2.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Mary Sherwood, Widow of Capt. Samuel Sherwood, Who died Sept. 18th, 1743, in y^e 61st year of her age.

In memory of
Capt. Samuel Sherwood, who died Sept. 10th, 1802, in the 71st year of his age.

In memory of
Ann, relict of Hezekiah Bradley, formerly the wife of Capt. Samuel Sherwood, who died Dec. 26, 1822, aged 84.

In memory of
Stephen Sherwood, who died July 12, 1837, aged 89 years.

Here lyes the Body of
Doctr. Thomas Sherwood, who Dec^d May y^e 7th, 1727, in y^e 41st year of his age.

Amanda Louisa, only child of Stephen & Harriet Silliman, who died Feb. 8, 1838, *Æ*. 17 mo. 8 ds.

In memory of
Daniel Silliman, Esqr., who departed this Life Febr^y 25th, A. D. 1773, in the 52 Year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Sarah Silliman, Wife of Mr. Daniel Silliman, that departed this life February y^e 22^d, A. D. 1773, aged 48 years.

Hannah Silliman, Daug^{tr} of Nathaniel & Hannah Silliman, Dec^d Febr^y y^e 18, 1826, Aged 2 years & 10 mo.

Sacred to the memory of
Loretta, Daughter of Capt. Nathaniel & Mrs. Chloe Silliman, who was born Sept. 23, 1791, & died Augst 24, 1794, aged 2 years 11 months 1 day.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Ruth Silliman. Wife to Mr. Robert Silliman, Who Departed this life March y^e 15th, 1756, Aged 58 years 1 month & 15 Das.

Rhoda Silliman, Daug^{tr} of Mr. Robert & Mrs. Ruth Silliman, Died April 22^d, A. D. 1739, aged 3 years, 9 months & 16 Days.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Ruth Silliman, y^e Dau^{tr} of Robert & Ruth Silliman, aged 6 years 1 mo. & 2 days; who Died Sept. 23, 1727.

In memory of
Capt. Seth Silliman, who died March 31st, 1808, in the 67th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Lois Silliman, wife to Capt. Seth Silliman, who Died July 13, 1807, in the 63^d year of her age.

In memory of
Mr. Seth Silliman, son of Capt. Seth & Mrs. Lois Silliman, who died Dec^r 1st, 1794, aged 21 years, 1 month & 7 days.

In memory of
Elizabeth, wife of Seth Silliman, who died Oct. 10, 1826, aged 54 years.

In memory of
Mr. Josiah Smith, who departed this Life August 26th, 1794, Aged 37 years.

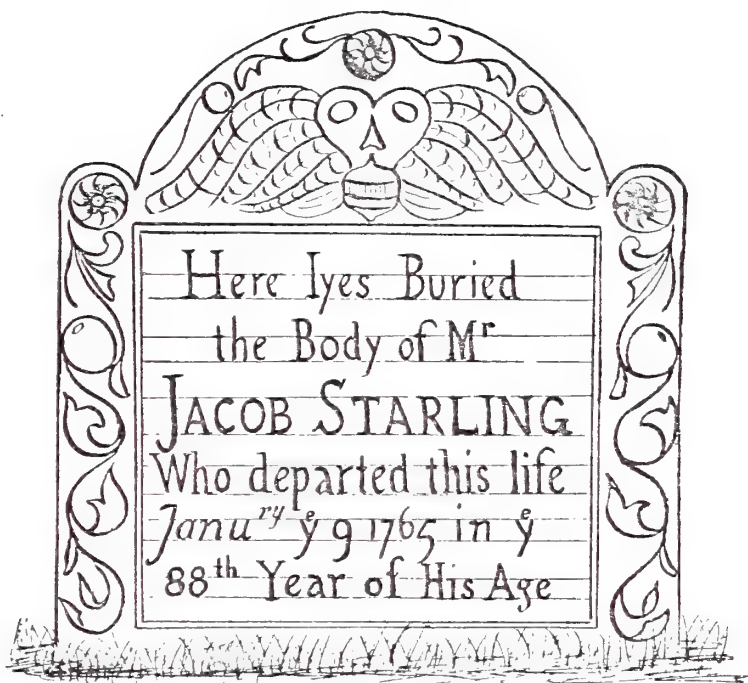
In memory of
Lewis, son of Tertullus Stephenson & Sarah his Wife, who died Sept. 11, 1805, *Æ*. 9 years.

In memory of
Abijah Sterling, Esqr., who died March 17th, 1802, in the 57th year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Eunice Sterling, relict of Abijah Sterling, Esq., who died Feb. 15, 1816, in the 73 year of her age.

George, Son of Mr. David & Mrs. Deborah Sterling, died March 5th, 1802, aged 1 year & 2 days.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Hannah Starling, wife to Mr. Jacob Starling, who departed this life June y^e 14th, 1756, in y^e 77th year of her age.



Here lyes the Body of
Mary Sterling, Daugh^r of Mr.
Jacob & Mrs. Hannah Sterling, who
died March 2nd, Anno Dom. 1737, in
y^e 23^d year of her age.

In memory of
Mr. Sherwood Sterling, who died
Sept. 22^d, 1802, in the 29th year of his
age.

In memory of
Mr. Stephen Sterling, who depart-
ed this life Oct^r 23^d, 1797, in the 43
year of his age.

In Memory of
Mr. Stephen Sterling, who depart-
ed this life March 19th, 1793, in the
81st year of his age.

To the memory of
Eunice Sterling, wife of Stephen
Sterling, who died October 8, 1808,
aged 88 years.

Sacred to the memory of
Nehemiah Strong, Esq., Formerly
Professor of Mathematiks and Nat-
ural Philosophy in Yale College.
He died August 13, 1807, in the 80th
year of his Age.

Sacred the memory of
Mrs. Mary Strong, late Consort of
Nehemiah Strong, Esqr., formerly
Professor of Mathematics and natural
Philosophy in Yale College. She
died January 23^d, A. D. 1807, Anno
Ætat sue 76.

Death like an overflowing stream
Sweeps us away, our life's a dream.

Joseph Strong, died March 23, 1816,
in the 75 year of his age.

In memory of
Mrs. Comfort Strong, Wife of
Joseph Strong, Esqr., who died Feb.
14th, 1804, in the 65th year of her age.

In memory of
Comfort, Wife of Joseph Strong, who
died Sept. 13, 1841, Aged 77 years.

In memory of
Charity Strong, Dau^r of Mr. Jos-
eph & Mrs. Comfort Strong, Who
departed this life August y^e 5th, 1776,
in the 19th month of her age.

Miss Anna, Daughter of Joseph
Strong, Esqr., and Mrs. Comfort his
Wife, departed this life July 2^d, 1798,
In the 19th Year of her Age.
Rest in sweet slumbers, lovely Sister, rest,
Thy life be copied and thy memory blest.

In memory of

Miss Comfort Strong. Daughter of Joseph Strong, Esqr., and Mrs. Comfort his wife, who departed this life March 7th, 1801, in the 20th year of her age.

Stop friend and drop the pitting tear
O'er these lov'd remains beneath this sod,
Yet think their spirits rest not here
But in the bosom of their God.

In memory of

Miss Sarah Strong. Daughter of Joseph Strong, Esqr. & Mrs. Comfort Strong, who died Oct^o 18th, 1804, in the 33^d year of her age.

In memory of

Tryphena, daughter of John Strong, of Fairfield, who died Sept. 10, 1829, aged 56 years & 6 month.

In memory of

Aaron Summers, who died Feb. 24, 1826, aged 81 years.

In memory of

Huldah Summers, wife of Aaron Summers, who died April 22, 1837, aged 83 years.

In Memory of

Alice Summers, who died March 26, 1823, aged 62 years.

In memory of

Elnathan Summers, who died Dec. 9, 1831, aged 85 years.

Urania, daughter of Elnathan Summers, died Dec. 7, 1849, Aged 68 years.

Here lyes y^e body of

Enoch Summers, son of Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Eunice Summers, who departed this life March y^e 12th, 1759, in y^e 15th year of his age.

In memory of

Mr. Jabez Summers, who died Augst 21st, 1801, aged 80 years & 27 days.

In Memory of

Mrs. Abiah Summers, who died Sept^r 8th, 1807, in the 84th year of her age.

In memory of

Mary Summers, who died Jan. 12, 1824, aged 80 years.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

In memory of

Mrs. Mary Summers, who died April 19th, 1806, in the 25th year of her age.

In memory of

Mary Summers, wife of Samuel Summers, who died Feb. 2^d, 1811, in the 66th year of her age.

In memory of

Miss Rhoda Summers, who died Aug. 12, 1823, in her 37 year.

Here lyes Buried the Body of

Mr. Nathan Summers, Who Departed this Life Decem^r y^e 13, 1772, in y^e 70th year of His Age.

Here lyes the Body of

Mrs. Comfort Summers, Wife of Mr. Nathan Summers, Who departed this life Octob^r y^e 4th, 1763, in y^e 63^d Year of Her Age.

Here lies the body of

Mrs. Martha Summers, Wife of Nathan Summers, who died Oct. 26th, 1751, in y^e 50th year of Her Age.

In memory of

Samuel Summers, who died June 16th, 1810, in the 74th year of his age

Here lyes y^e Body of

Mrs. Eunice Summers, Wife of Mr. Samuel Summers, Who departed this Life Febr^y 8th, 1766, in ye 25th Year of Her Age.

In memory of

Capt. Stephen Summers, who died July 16th, 1811, in the 68th year of his age.

Also of his son,

Stephen Summers, Junr., Master of the Brig William, who with his crew were lost Nov^r 1810, aged 34 years.

Nathaniel Thorp, died Jan. 9, 1836, Æ. 38.

Died Jan. 26, 1826, an

Infant, daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Ann Thorp, aged 4 mo. & 18 da, s.

Died Jan. 7, 1828,

Emily, daughter of Nathaniel & Mary Ann Thorp, aged 11 mo. & 17 days.

Grandison B. Treadwell, died Sept. 24, 1865, Æ. 61 years, 4 Mo.

Ruth Ann, his wife, died April 22, 1869, Æ. 55 yrs. 2 Mo.

Naomy, daughter to Lieut. Hezekiah & Mrs. Mehitable Tredwell, who died A. D., August the 12th, 1744, in the 12th year of her age.

Elizabeth Treadwell, Deceased May 10, 1709, In Her 4th year.



Here lyes the Body of
H. Treadwell, Dessed Apl. ———
In Her 23 —.

Here lyes the Body of
Samuel Treadwell, Died Febray
the 28, 1717.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mr. Stephen Treadwell, Who De-
parted this Life Nov^r 23^d, Anno Dom-
ini, 1753, in y^e 44th year of His Age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Timothy Treadwell, of this place,
Who decd Sept^r about y^e 20th, aged
about 37 years, 1720.

S. T. [Probably a Treadwell.]

Sarah Treadwell, Died Dec. 24th,
1709.

R. T., 1699. [In the Treadwell row
of stones.]

D. T., 1696. [In Treadwell row.]

E. T. [and] **E.** [and] **M.—B.** [In
Treadwell row.]

E. T., 1708. [In the Treadwell row.]

Clark M. Tuttle, died December 8,
1867, aged 59 yrs. 3 mos. & 21 days.

Lorintha, wife of Clark M. Tuttle
& daughter of Abel & Ruth Hubbell,
died May 19, 1852, Æ. 38.

Here lyes y^e Body of y^e
Rev. Mr. Nathaniel Tucker,
Who died December 20th, 1747, in y^e
23^d Year of His Age; Who was Rec-
tor of the Church of Christ in Con-
necticut Farms in Elizabeth Town in
New Jersey.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Henry Wakeling, who Died
Janu^y 9th Anno Domini, 1743, in y^e
60th year of his age.

Here lyeth the Body of
Rachel Waklin, Who Departed this
life in the — year of Her Age,
March 10, 1753.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Zebulon Wakelee, who de-
parted this life, July 1st, 1767, in y^e
55th year of his age.

Sarah B., Daughter of Rufus and
Mary Way, died July 30, 1859, aged
3 mo. and 9 ds.

Sleep on dear Babe and take thy rest.
We mourn thy absence now but
Soon the trump of God shall sound
And we again Behold thy lovely face.

In memory of
Capt. William Worden, who died
Oct^o 27th, 1808, in the 75th year of his
age.

In memory of
Anna Wordin, Wife of Capt. Wil-
liam Wordin, who died Augst 27th,
1805, in the 68th year of his age.

Here lyes the Body of
Elizabeth Wel—, [probably Wells]
that deceased in the year 1706.

In memory of
Jedediah Wells, who died March 9,
1827, aged 75.

In memory of
Hannah, Wife of Jedediah Wells,
who died June 5, 1838, aged 84 years.

In memory of
Charity Wells, who died Oct. 2,
1841, Æ. 61 yrs.

Ellen Wells, Wife of Henry Man-
ning, Died Sept. 20, 1867; Æ. 83
years 6 mos.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Mrs. Lucy Wells, Wife to Mr.
Jedediah Wells, who departed this
life Oct^r y^e 28, A. D. 1751, in y^e 23^d
year of her age.

Behold as you pass by
As you are now so once was I,
As I am now so you must be,
Prepare for death and follow me.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Ruth Wells, wife to Mr. David
Wells, who departed this life July y^e
3^d, 1766, in ye 35th year of her age.

In Memory of
Mr. Stephen Wells, who died Sept.
11, 1825, aged 70 years.

In memory of
Mrs. Mary, relict of Mr. Stephen
Wells, who died Sept. 11, 1827, aged
69 years.

Frances Caroline, Daughter of
Robert W. & Amelia Wetmore, died
April 1st, 1797, Aged 14 days.

In memory of
Mr. Benjamin Wheeler, who de-
parted this Life Dec^r 26th, 1798, In
the 74th Year of his Age.

In memory of
Mrs. Mary Wheeler, Wife of Mr.
Benjamin Wheeler, who departed this
life Augst 13th, 1798, In the 71st year
of her Age.

Chauncey Wheeler, died April —,
1803, Æ. 52.

Caroline M., his wife, died May 13, 1853, *Æ.* 92.

Here lyes the Body of
Isaac Wheeler, that Decesed Apr. 1, 1712, Age 70 yrs.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Doctr. John Wheeler, Who Departed this life Sept^r 12th, 1747, in y^e 64th year of his Age.

In Memory of
Mr. John Wheeler, Who died Sept. 12th, 1790, aged 80 years 10 months & 3 days.

In memory of
Mrs. Dorothy Wheeler, Relict of Mr. John Wheeler, who died Oct. 9th, 1800, in the 87th year of her age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Lucy Wheeler, Daughter of Mr. Hezekiah & Mrs. Abigail Wheeler, Who departed this Life Nov. y^e 26th, 1768, in y^e 14th Year of Her Age.

Here lyes Buried y^e Body of
Nehemiah Wheeler, son of Doct. John & Mrs. Hannah Wheeler, Who Dec^d Novemb^r ye 25th, Anno 1726, in y^e 7th year of His Age.

Nichols C. Wheeler, died Feb. 6, 1859, *Æ.* 65.

Polly, wife of Nicholas C. Wheeler, died Aug. 29, 1853, *Æ.* 61.

In memory of
Miss Sarah Wheeler, Dau^{tr} of Amos Wheeler, Esqr., of Brookfield, who died Aug. 13, 1805, in the 14th year of her age.

Stay passenger, this stone demands thy tears,
Here lies a parent's hope of tender years,
Our sorrows now, but late our joy and praise,
Lost in the mild aurora of her days,
What virtue might have graced her fuller day!
But ah! the charm just shown, and snatched away,
Friendship, love, nature; all reclaim in vain,
Heaven when it will refuses its gifts again.

Here lyes Buried the Body of
Mr. Timothy Wheeler, who died March 5th, 1752, in y^e 62^d year of his his age.

Here lyes y^e Body of
Mrs. Ann Wheeler, widow of Mr. Timothy Wheeler, who departed this life July the 18th, 1764, in y^e 72^d year of her age.

Timothy Wheeler, son of Mr. Timothy & Mrs. Grissel Wheeler, was born Sept. 3^d & died Sept^r 28th, 1790.

In Memory of
Wm. B. Wheeler, who decd July 20, 1842, aged 33 yrs.
Don't mourn my friends and parents dear,
I am not dead, but sleeping here;
My peace is made, my grave you see,
Prepare for death and follow me.

In memory of
Elizabeth, daugh^{tr} of Bennet & Susan C. Whitney, Died Dec. 29, 1839, *Æ.* 11 weeks.

In memory of
Aaron W. Whiting, who died Nov 3^d, 1833, *Æ.* 52 yrs.

Sally, Relict of Aaron W. Whiting, Died Mar. 2, 1866, *Æ.* 85 years, 9 mos.

In memory of
Polly, daughter of Capt. Daniel Wildman, formerly of Danbury, who died June 29, 1814, *Æ.* 17.

The grave of
Abraham Wilson, who died Sept. 27, 1839, aged 62 years.

Eunice, Wife of Abraham Wilson, died Feb. 28, 1854, *Æ.* 71.

In memory of
Mrs. Eleanor Wilson, Wife of Mr. Amos Wilson & Daughter to Mr. Benjamin & Mrs. Margaret Lacey, who departed this life June 23, 1795, aged 27 years 2 months & 17 days.

In memory of
Ann Wilson, who died Dec. 10, 1856, Aged 60 years.

I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me though he were dead yet shall he live.

In memory of
Mrs. Anna Wilson, who departed this life Oct. 29, 1844, aged 73 years & 3 months.
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

The Grave of
Burr Wilson, who died April 12, 1850, *Æ.* 76 years.

Ruth, Wife of Burr Wilson, decd June 29, 1858, Aged 84 years.

In Memory of
Isaac Wilson, son of Burr & Ruth Wilson, who died June 28, 1826, aged 29 years.

In memory of
Capt. Daniel Wilson, who died May 14, 1822, aged 52 years.

Maria, daughter of Daniel & Anne Wilson, died May 8, 1850, aged 52 years.

Them also that sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.



The Grave of

Oliver Gould, son of Alfred & Louisa Wilson, who died Feb. 15, 1837, aged 5 mo & 10 days.
Death came like a winter's day
And snatched our lovely babe away.

Eusebia Gould, Daughter of Alfred & Louisa Wilson, dec^d Apr. 6, 1852, Æ. 5 years & 25 ds.

The grave of

Fairchild Wilson, who died May 28, 1848, Æ. 35 yrs. 5 mos. & 9 ds.

Triumphant in the closing eye
The hope of glory shone;
Joy breathed in the expiring eye,
To think the race was run,
Thy passing spirit gently fled,
Sustained by grace divine.
O may such grace on us be shed
And make our end like thine.

James Wilson, Died Nov. 24, 1852, Æ. 82 yrs. & 8 Mo.

Sarah, wife of James Wilson, Died April 12, 1870, Æ. 93 yrs. 8 mos.

In memory of

Mr. James Wilson, son of Mr. Robert & Mrs. Catharine Wilson, who was seized, Sept. 4th, at Trinity, in Newfoundland, of the illness of which he died Oct. 12, 1773, in y^e 32^d year of his age.

Swift as the sun revolves the day
We hasten to the dead,
Slaves to the mind we puff away,
And to the ground we tread,
We steer our course up thro' the skies,
Farewell this barren land,
There, there the Dear wealth of spirits lies
And beckoning Angels stand.

In memory of

Mrs. Sarah Wilson, wife to Mr. James Wilson, Dau^{tr} of Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Sarah Morris, who departed this life March the 29, 1771, in ye 26th year of her age.
Come courteous friend, come drop a tear
Over these dry bones & say:
These once were strong as mine appear
And mine must be as they.
Thus should these mouldering members teach
What now our senses learn,
For dust & ashes loudest preach
Man's infinite concern.

In memory of

Mr. John Wilson, Junr., Son of Mr. Robert & Mrs. Catharine Wilson, who died Oct^r 20th, A. D. 1776, in y^e 29th year of his age.
You sacred mourners of a nobler mould
Born for a friend whose dear embraces hold
Beyond all nature's ties you that have known,
Two happy souls made intimately one,
And felt a parting stroke, 'tis you must tell,
The smart twinges & the racks I feel borne.
This soul of mine that dreadful wound has
Off from its side its dearest half is torn,
The rest lies bleeding & but lives to mourn.

In memory of

Justus Wilson, who died Dec. 14, 1839, aged 73.

In memory of

Charity, wife of Justus Wilson, who died April 23, 1850, in the 77 year of her age.

Paulina Wilson, born Agst. 16, 1798, died April 23, 1879.
Her soul Rests in peace.

Robert Wilson, died May 24, 1861, in his 74th year.

Sarah, daughter of Robert & Sarah Wilson, died May 3, 1859, in her 24th year.

In memory of

Mr. Robert Wilson, who died May 11th, 1813, in the 58th year of his age.
Happy the man who consecrates his hours
By vig'rous effort, and an honest aim,
At once he draws the sting of life and death;
He walks with wisdom and her paths are peace.

In memory of

Eunice, wife of Robert Wilson, who died Dec. 1, 1823, in her 68 year.

The grave of

Pamelia, the wife of Wyllys Lyon and daughter of Robert & Eunice Wilson. She died Sept. 1st, 1837, Aged 39 yrs. 2 mo. 12 ds.

In memory of

Miss Eleanor Wilson, who died Oct. 8, 1824, aged 29 years.

The Grave of

Sarah, daughter of Robert & Sarah Wilson. She died Nov. 16, 1835, in her 7 year.

Thou art gone, bright flower,
Deep was our grief to part
With one so lovely, innocent and fair.
Remembrance long will wring the wounded heart
And hold thy beauteous image ever there.

In memory of

Sarah Wilson, who died Sept. 30, 1868, Æ. 68 yrs.

Asleep in Jesus.

In memory of

Silliman Wilson, who died July 8, 1833, aged 63 yrs. 5 mo. & 15 ds.

In memory of

Rhoda, wife of Silliman Wilson, who died April 6, 1825, aged 57 years, 3 months & 2 days.

In memory of

Summers Wilson, son of Abraham & Eunice Wilson, who died Sept. 21, 1826, aged 22 years.



In memory of

Winthrop Wilson, who died Feb. 3, 1826, aged 33 years.

Mary, Daughter of Thomas & Elizabeth Woodward, died 18th Sept. 1802.

E. H. 1694, A. 8.

J. P. 88.

E. 1689.

R. G. 1703.

R. J. D. S. F. 12, 1731.

R. J. M^r 14, 1712.

E. J. June 11, 1716.

M. J. Nov. 13, 1712.

D. D. 1688.

Mrs. P. C. 1706.

B. B. 1712.

S. J. 1689.

A. B. 1688.

M. B.

O. C. 1689.

——, 1690.

Here lies

M. J. 1733, D. Jan. 3.

C. J. D. M. J. 1693.

E. J. J. E. 17, 1695.

J. O. 1691, S. 12.

O. J. M. 20, 170—.

M. S. Aged 6 y^s Who died June 17, 1717.

S. H. 1718.

R. H. 1696.

E. O. Aged 17, Who died Oct. 16, 1721.

J. H. 1690. D. M.

M. S. 1711.

R. T. 1707, Apl. 9, D.

S. C. 1698.

C. B. 1700.

A. B. 1688.

—— 1699.

S. B. 1690.

E. B. 1699.

M. S. 98.

A. C. 1698.

D. C. 1699.

M. B. Ds. 7, 1715.

N. T. N. 1691.

A. S. 91.

—— 1696.

I. H. 1689.

E. H. 1688.

R. H.

S. H.

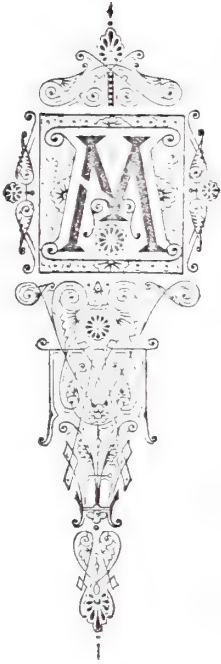
Here lies the Body of

Matthew Sherwood.



CHAPTER III.

THE BOROUGH OF BRIDGEPORT.



ANY plans are devised at the present day to build cities as a matter of enterprise and money-making, but Bridgeport grew up without a plan or in spite of one. Before the Revolution it was supposed that New Pasture Point would develop into a city, but so far as has been ascertained, during that war a point of trade was established on the west side of the harbor, and then or soon after, was called Newfield. In 1777 the name is first found recorded, but in an accidental way, as though familiarly used.

In January, 1787, Josiah Lacey, of Stratfield, Nathan Seeley, of Danbury, and David Burr, of Fairfield, were appointed a committee by the Fairfield County Court to lay out and widen the highways now known as Main street and State street. The former is designated in the committee's report, dated April 13, 1787, as "the road at the foot of Golden Hill," and the latter as "the road from the dwelling-house of the widow Eunice Hubbell, near the stores at Newfield, to the town line between Stratford and Fairfield." State street, as a highway, was laid out soon after November 9, 1691.¹

In May, 1787, the following resolution was passed by the Connecticut Legislature:

¹ *State Street laid out.*

"Nov. 9, 1691. Samuel Sherman and Robert Cune was chosen and appointed by the town to view where it is most convenient for a highway to pass in y^e Fairfield to Paquonnock Harbor and to treat with y^e persons through whose land said highway should pass.

"Upon report of a committee appointed in May last, which is now accepted and approved, resolved by this Assembly that the town of Stratford be and they are hereby empowered and allowed to keep and maintain a public Ferry in said town, across the creek or harbour called New Field Harbour, from the point of land called New Pasture Point, below Toby's wharf, to the opposite shore of said harbour or creek, to and on to land of Aaron Hawley, about ten rods south of said Hawley's dwelling house, and that two sufficient boats shall be constantly kept, one on each side of said creek, plying from shore to shore as occasion may require, at the places aforesaid, during the pleasure of this Assembly, all subject to the same relations that other Ferries in this State are by Law subject to."

The western terminus was near the foot of the present Union street, but the facilities afforded by it were not sufficient to accommodate the public, and in May, 1791, the town meeting of Stratford voted its consent to "build a bridge across the Pequonnock river nearly opposite Cannon and Lockwood's wharf," and in the same month the Legislature gave authority to Robert Walker, of Stratford, and others to establish a lottery to raise the funds necessary to build a bridge across Newfield harbor, and appointed a committee to view the circumstances as to what kind of a bridge would be needed, and what the expense, and report to the next session.

The next autumn the town voted to request the General Assembly that if a bridge was built by lottery the expense of maintaining it should not fall upon the town.

Upon the building of this bridge it became necessary to change the road which passed around the point along the shore, and a committee of the Legislature made the following as a part of their report concerning it:

"The alterations between Newfield Bridge and Benjamin's Bridge are grounded on the necessity of avoiding or shunning the road now traveled, under the bank where the tide flows, which renders it at times impassable, to the detriment of travellers; being likewise very crooked, which is now remedied by a straight line on good ground through Asa Benjamin's rope walk. Twenty rods of the south part



thereof must be taken up and shifted to the north end, together with his wheel house, which is thirty feet in length, and subject him to the necessity of purchasing a lot of land of about seven acres at an extravagant price, beside the expense of taking up the rope walk."

The committee recommended that three hundred and thirty dollars damages should be paid to Asa Benjamin by the town of Stratford. The road was made, and liberty given to Stratford to set up a toll-gate at Lottery Bridge in Newfield, for the support of that and Benjamin's bridge, which was done in 1799. In 1797 Benjamin's bridge was voted, by the town, to be "rebuilt and made eighteen feet wide."

In March, 1800, the town voted to lay out a "new road from New Pasture Point to Old Mill road." This was what is now East Main street.

In the report of the committee fixing the place from which the ferry should start on the east side of the harbor, they say, "from a point of land called New Pasture Point below Toby's wharf." This wharf seems to have been the same as mentioned in a deed many years before, namely, March 17, 1745-6, Ephraim Watkins, of Ulster county, N. Y., sold to Peter Veiw, of Stratford, "a certain wharf in Pequonock River, it being the lowermost wharf in said river."

A part of the township of Stratford was incorporated, by special act of the Legislature, in October, 1800, being "constituted and declared to be, from time to time, forever hereafter, one body corporate and politic, in fact and in name, by the name of '*The Warden, Burgesses and Freemen of the Borough of Bridgeport*,' and by that name they and their successors forever shall and may have perpetual succession."

The origin of the idea of such an organization is made known in the following extract from a letter written by Joseph Backus, one of the earliest lawyers in Bridgeport, to Robert Walker, Esqr., dated September 20, 1822; "I say that I did of my own mere motion project the Borough incorporation (the first project of the kind in the state), and drew the

² Statute Laws of Conn., I. 106.



charter and then submitted it to the citizens to obtain its enactment.”³

Hence Bridgeport was the first Borough in the State of Connecticut, and as a forerunner, in its success and prosperity, has proved itself worthy of the position thus taken.

Before the charter was granted considerable money had been raised and expended in improvements in the village, and it is probable that the fact of improvement suggested the need of further organization, and hence the proposition for a borough.

Highways, or streets, additional to those already mentioned, were laid out under the direction of the Warden and Burgesses of Bridgeport, November 16, 1805, Joseph Backus, Justice of the Peace for Fairfield county, having appointed Samuel Gregory, Jr., Isaac Booth and Philip Sterling “to appraise and assess the damages.”

1st. The extension of Water street from Wall to a point about one hundred and fifty feet north of Fairfield avenue.

2d. Fairfield avenue, from Main to Water street.

3d. Wall street, from Main eastwardly to the “Lottery Bridge,” which then stood at the foot of Wall street.

4th. Middle street, from Fairfield avenue to Wall street.

5th. Broad street, from State to John street.

6th. John street, from Broad to Main street.

7th. Bank street, from Main to Broad street. That portion of Bank street, from Main eastward, had been previously deeded to the borough by Stephen Burroughs, in 1802, and was known as Morris street.

8th. Court street, from State, southward ninety-nine feet.

At that time there were several other streets or highways in the heart of the borough; Water street, from Wall to Baker’s pond; Bank street, from Water to Main street, and Broad street, south of State to the outer harbor, and Gold street and Union street.

Baker’s Pond was a creek extending westward across Main street, about where South avenue is now located, but that portion of Water street below Gilbert was simply the shore beach by the side of the harbor.

³ Esquire Isaac Sherman’s Manuscript book.

The Borough at this time owned three slips, one at the foot of State street, one at the foot of Bank street and one at about the foot of Wall street.

At a borough meeting held May 3, 1808, the street names as above noted were established.

In 1801 St. John's Church edifice was erected on the corner of State and Broad streets, and that of the First Congregational Church was erected in 1803, on the corner of Broad and Bank streets.

Business Firms of the Borough.

The following is a list of the firms, with the names of the individuals who composed them, given by Esquire Isaac Sherman, from the first settlement of Bridgeport to the first day of January, 1815, being those of merchants, manufacturers, Boston and New York coasters, and West India traders, with the names of vessels employed as well as the names of the owners. The stores and places for doing business were mostly confined to Water and State streets.

The territory on which the city of Bridgeport now stands was much of it an open field of good farming land, and at the close of the Revolution Main and State streets were laid out so that access was had to the landing place on Pequonnock river or Newfield harbor; Water street and the old Golden Hill road having been opened before the Revolution. The name of the landing was called Newfield until about the year 1800, when it was changed to Bridgeport.

The first store opened for trade to the inhabitants of Stratfield, supposed to have been opened by Philip Nichols, was situated at the head of tide water, near where Noah Plumb now resides. This store may have been first started by Richard, the father of Philip Nichols, at about the year 1730. There were no bridges across the Pequonnock river until after the Revolution, except that which now crosses near the said Plumb's house. There was the same depth of water at the mouth of Bridgeport harbor as there was all the way up the channel to the wharf belonging to this store, and therefore all the vessels came up and did their loading and unloading at this wharf until near the time of the Revolutionary War.



The next store, and the first that was opened within the limits of the city, was near the foot of State street, built on a wharf, by Stephen Burroughs, before the Revolution, and occupied by himself in the grain trade to Boston until about the year 1800. He also conducted a West India trade, from this store, before and after the Revolution. He built and owned several vessels during his active, business life. This store was occupied during the Revolution by Lieut. William Hall's guard, consisting of about twenty-four men. This company of guard commenced service January 1, 1777, and continued until January 1, 1782, by authority of the Council of Safety of the State of Connecticut.

The next store was built by Major Aaron Hawley soon after the Revolution, which he sold to Daniel Young, who came from Norwich, and this was the principal store for groceries and dry goods until the year 1800. It was located on Water street nearly opposite the foot of Union street, where Mr. Young was quite successful in business.

Some little time after the Revolution, but before 1815, the firm of Abijah Hawley and Company—which consisted of Abijah, Aaron and Wilson Hawley—carried on the Boston and West India coasting trade. Their Boston coaster was called the Three Sisters, and their New York packet was a sloop called Caroline. They were successful in business for many years.

Capt. Abraham Hubbell came from Wilton and built a store and wharf a little north of the foot of State street, about the year 1790, and carried on the Boston coasting business. He died in Boston, of the small pox. Richard and Amos Hubbell, of Stratfield, succeeded him in the Boston and West India trade, under the firm name of Richard and Amos Hubbell, and conducted their trade with a brig called Julius Cæsar, and had success in their business.

Afterwards, David Minot and Company carried on the Boston coasting trade from the same store, until about the year 1810, and were successful. This firm consisted of David Minot, Stephen Summers and William DeForest. Their Boston coaster was a standing topsail sloop called Hope.

The next store and wharf north of the foregoing was

built by Stephen Burroughs, Jr., about the year 1798 and owned by him until his death. It was burned at the time of the great fire in 1845. It was occupied first by the firm of Burroughs and DeForest, consisting of Stephen Burroughs, Jr., and William DeForest, engaged in the Boston coasting and West India trade, which partnership continued about ten years, and was very successful. They owned the standing topsail sloop *Volusia*, sailed by Capt. Harry Lewis.

After this firm the same business was continued by said Burroughs until the year 1815, when it was assumed by Stephen Burroughs and Isaac Sherman, and thus continued to 1831, with success. The names of their Boston coasters were *Volusia*, sloop *Peacock*, schooner *Hero* and the schooner *Nassau*, built by this last firm for a Boston coaster, and after one year it was sent to Mobile under a charter to some merchants from New York to St. Stevens, on the Tombigbee river, Capt. Lent M. Hitchcock, master. She entered the port in June, 1817, and was the first American vessel that entered the port of Mobile after it came into the possession of the United States. Capt. Hitchcock succeeded in getting the *Nassau* up the river within about thirty miles of St. Stevens, where his cargo, consisting of goods for merchants at that place, was put into lighters and carried to that place. The schooner was then loaded with red cedar logs and ash-wood for firewood. She lost two sailors by the yellow fever on the voyage. This vessel was continued under the command of Capt. Hitchcock with good success about four years, as a packet between New York and Mobile, when the trade became so much increased as to require larger vessels.

The store and wharf next north of Bank and east of Water street, was built by Amos Hubbell, and was called the Yellow store. It was occupied by him after he dissolved partnership with his brother Richard. Capt. Hubbell built a ship and a brig near his store and conducted the West India trade until his death, in 1801.

This store and wharf has been occupied since Capt. Hubbell's decease by the firm of DeForest and Hinman, consisting of William DeForest and Isaac Hinman, who conducted



the Boston grain business; their coaster being a fore topsail schooner called the Live Oak, of one hundred tons, built by this firm in 1804. It was next occupied by the firm of Hubbell and Sherwood—C. B. Hubbell and Capt. Sherwood—engaged in the West India trade. These were followed by the firm of C. B. Hubbell and Daniel Fayreweather, in the dry goods and the New York and Boston coasting trade. They owned a New York packet called the Lapwing, and a Boston coaster called Spartan. Later, C. B. Hubbell and his brother-in-law, John M. Thompson, from Stratford, conducted an exclusive dry goods business in the "old yellow store" on the east side of Water street, up to the year 1842.

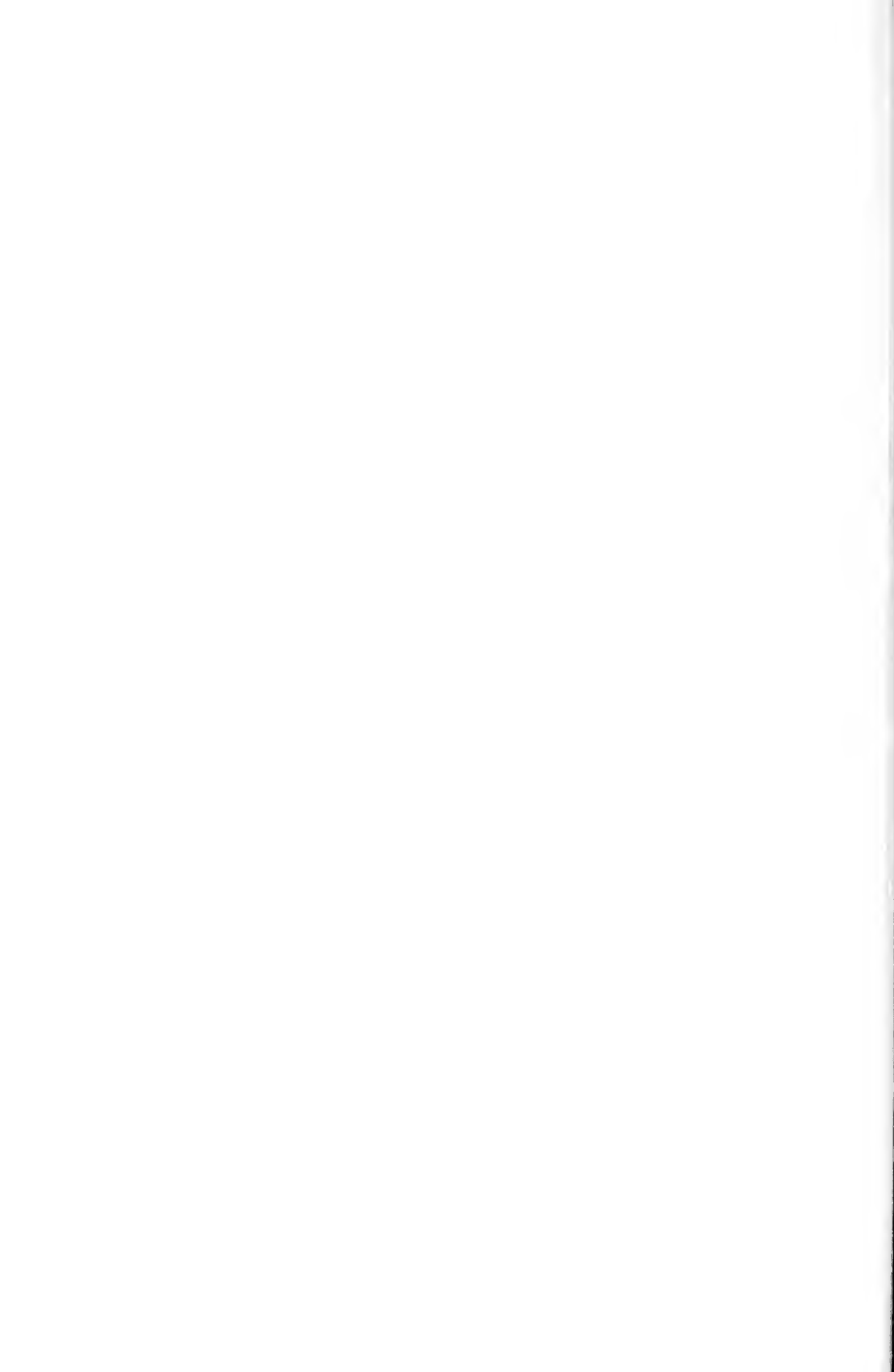
The next store and wharf north was owned and occupied by David Sterling as an iron and grocery store. In 1807 this property was occupied by the firm of Beach and Sherman—Doct. James E. Beach and Isaac Sherman—until 1809, when Capt. Sterling Sherman was added to the firm. They carried on the grocery and grain business and New York packeting for several years; the name of their packet being The Bridgeport.

The store and wharf next north was owned by John S. Cannon, occupied by Esquire Isaac Sherman and Capt. John Brooks, Jr. They ran a packet from the store about four years—from 1818 to 1822—called the Mary Ann.

The store and wharf north of this was built by the firm of Lambert Lockwood and John S. Cannon, and occupied by them during several years in dry goods and grocery trade, and running a packet sloop, called the Juba, to New York, sailed by Capt. John Brooks, Sen.

Another store and wharf north was built by Philip Nichols, at the foot of Wall street and adjoining the first bridge across the harbor, called Lottery Bridge, because it was built by a lottery authorized by the General Assembly in 1791. This bridge was rebuilt further up the harbor, where it now stands, in 1807. This store was first occupied by Charles T. Nichols for the sale of dry goods, and for a printing office by Hezekiah Ripley.

The store north of this was built by the firm of Prosper Whitmore and his brothers Robert and ——— Whitmore,



about the year 1792. They conducted the West India trade, carrying provisions, cattle and horses to the different islands, and bringing back rum, sugar and molasses. They had a number of vessels employed, but they failed in business in 1797.

In the year 1805, Josiah, Mordecai and Joseph H. Prindle, brothers, came from Derby and established in this store the West India business. They had three vessels employed in carrying out corn meal, horses and cattle, and bringing back rum, sugar and molasses. They lost two schooners in the fall of 1808, in a hurricane, with full cargoes of stock and corn meal, and all persons on board perished. As the result of these losses they failed, and gave up the business.⁴

Very little business was done in this store after the Whitmores failed until about the year 1816, when the firm of Sheldon Smith and William Wright occupied it for conducting the saddle and harness business, which firm was the continuation of the same business carried on previously in State street in connection with William Peet, who had retired from the business.

There were but four firms on the west side of Water street previous to the year 1815.

⁴ GENERAL PROSPER MONTGOMERY WETMORE, son of Robert William and grandson of Rev. Izrahiah Wetmore, was born in that part of Stratford which is now the city of Bridgeport, Feb. 14, 1798. He married Lucy Ann, daughter of Francis Ogsby, of New York City, and had twelve children, three sons and nine daughters. He resided in New York, and in 1834 and 5 represented the city in the Legislature. In 1819 he was commissioned in the State artillery service, and in 1825 he organized the Seventh Regiment of National Guards and became its first colonel. This was and is the most famous military regiment in that State. After some years he was appointed paymaster general of the State militia, which office he held until 1841. In 1834 he was elected one of the Regents of the University of the State, which office he held until after 1861. For many years he was vice-president and secretary of the Chamber of Commerce of New York City.

Mr. Wetmore was one of the founders of the American Art Union, and conducted it as its president for three years with great success. For fifteen years he devoted his best energies to the management of the New York Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, of which he was for many years the senior vice-president. He wrote much for the public papers, and in 1830 he published, in an elegant octavo volume, "Lexington, with other Fugitive Poems," which is the only collection of his writings. He did considerable other literary work. He was, however, generally known as a man of literary influence in society rather than as an author.



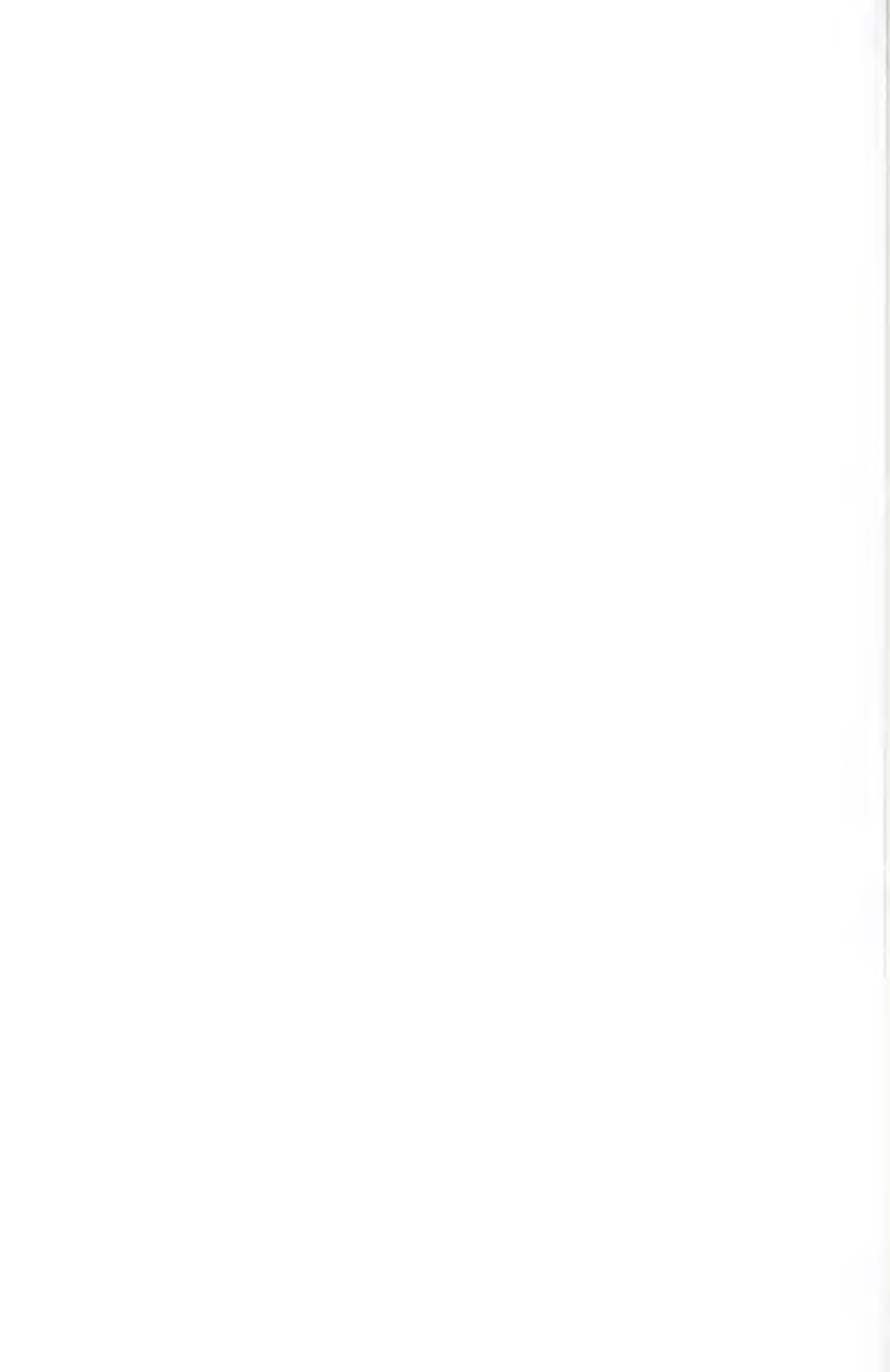
About the year 1794 a firm consisting of Doct. James E. Beach and David Sterling, built a story and a half wooden building for a store on the southwest corner of Water and Bank streets, where they sold dry goods, groceries and medicines until the year 1804. The same business was continued by successive firms until 1815, as described on page 514 of this work.

Another store, south of the above, fronting on Water street, was built about the year 1798, by Elijah Burritt and Ephraim W. Sherman, and occupied by them as a dry goods and grocery store until about 1817. Oliver and William Sherman, sons of Ephraim W., succeeded Burritt and Sherman and continued in the same store a retail grocery business for many years.

The next was a small wooden store on the northwest corner of Water and State streets, built by Elijah Hawley about the year 1790. It was occupied as a dry goods and grocery store until 1815, by Salmon Hubbell.

About the year 1790 a store was built on the corner of Water and the south side of State street, by Ezra Kirtland (at that time pronounced Catlin), which was occupied in 1794 by the brothers David and John DeForest as a dry goods and grocery store, which was robbed and fired, but not burned. Their clerk, a lad about fourteen years of age, by the name of Shelton Edwards, was murdered, his skull being broken by a shoe hammer in three places and his throat cut; but the perpetrators were never discovered. Owing to this catastrophe the DeForest brothers failed in business. Hull and Lyon succeeded them in this store building, in general trade to the West Indies. They built a ship in 1795, but failed in 1799.

A small store was built about the year 1791, adjoining Salmon Hubbell's on the west, fronting south on State street, which was occupied with dry goods and groceries by Seth and Silas Sherman until about the year 1800, and after that continued as a dry goods store by Silas Sherman and his son, Ira Sherman. Their store was robbed, about the year 1811, of one thousand dollars worth of dry goods, and no knowledge of the robbers was ever obtained.





Isaac Sherrman



Another store was built next above the last named, fronting on State street, by David Sherman about the year 1794, and occupied with dry goods and groceries by David Sherman and Nathan Seeley until about 1797. They carried on, in connection with their store, the West India trade in a large standing topsail sloop, called *Minerva*, commanded by Capt. Samuel Squires, who on his last voyage for them gambled away the avails of his outward bound cargo at St. Croix and came home with ballast only, which catastrophe broke up said firm, and Nathan Seeley removed to Bethel, where he died an old man about 1850, while David Sherman went back to his farm at Pequonnock, where he died August 22, 1810.

In the year 1806 Samuel Penney built a store on the north corner of Water and Bank streets, on land leased from Mrs. Eleanor Hubbell, which was occupied by Charles Bostwick and Samuel C. Kirtland to 1815 as a dry goods store.

Isaac Sherman, Esq., son of David and Rebecca (French) Sherman, was born in Stratfield, Sept. 25, 1788. Very early in life Mr. Sherman compiled and executed quite artistically a genealogical chart, showing at a glance his descent on his father's side from Matthew Sherman—son of Mr. Samuel, the first in Stratford—and Jacob Sterling, and on his mother's side from Samuel French and John Edwards, heads of four families of first settlers in Stratfield, with collateral branches in each generation. When sixteen years of age he went to sea and followed it with varying successes upwards of four years, having been shipwrecked twice on the New Jersey coast. At this time he had ninety-five dollars, to which his mother added five, making one hundred dollars with which to start business. To this his uncle, Dr. James E. Beach, added nine hundred dollars as a loan, and with this he started the firm of Beach and Sherman, located on Water street, in the grocery business, conducted solely by himself. In this he was so successful that his capital was doubled by his profits at the end of the first year. Shortly after, his brother, Capt. Sterling Sherman, was admitted a partner, with additional capital, and in this form the business



was continued six years. In December, 1810, he married Maria, daughter of Stephen Burroughs, Jr., and purchased the house, then recently built, on the northeast corner of Main and Gold streets, which was his only home of married life for fifty-three years.

In 1815 he joined his father-in-law in the grocery, grain, Boston and New York coasting business, which was successfully continued to 1831, with the exception of an interval of four years in partnership with Capt. John Brooks, Jr., in the same line of business. The firm of Burroughs and Sherman owned a number of vessels and built the schooner Nassau for a Boston coaster, which was used four years on mercantile trips to Mobile and back, under the command of Capt. Lent M. Hitchcock.

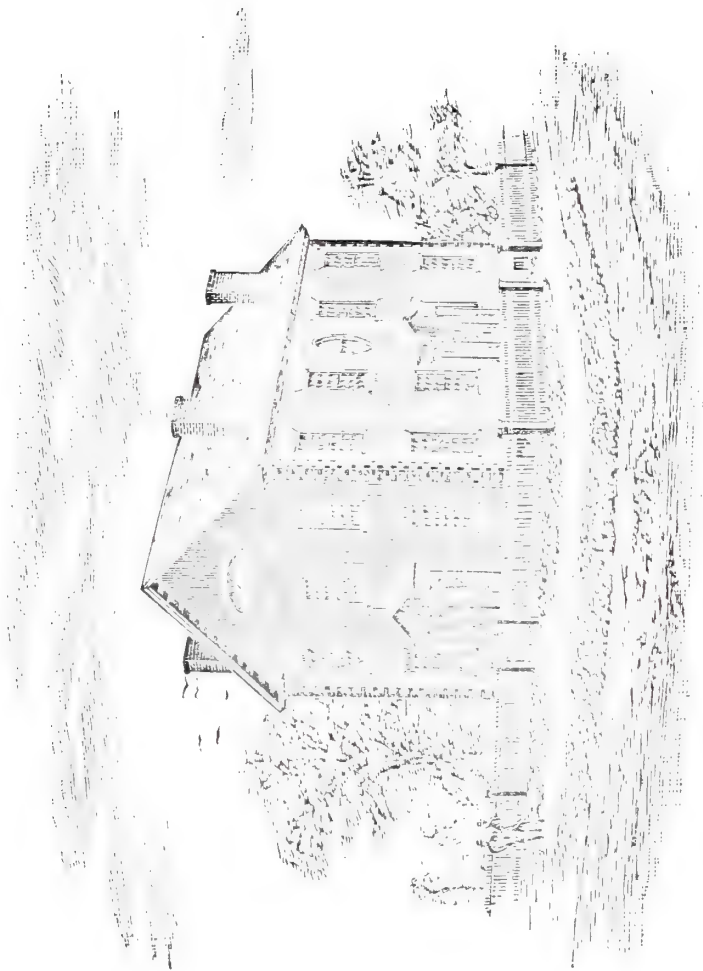
In 1832 Mr. Sherman retired from commercial life but not from active usefulness. As early as 1819 he was appointed justice of the peace and this office he retained after his retirement from business, until 1851. He was town clerk for sixteen years from 1831, and he was town treasurer twenty-two years, and afterwards for a time he was judge of Probate and recorder of the city. He served the city in two or three offices for a short time, but declined further responsibility in its government.

That he was a most industrious man is amply attested by voluminous records, original deeds and other conveyances, wills and documents which are preserved in the archives of the town and probate, and in the private box of nearly every property holder of his time in this vicinity.

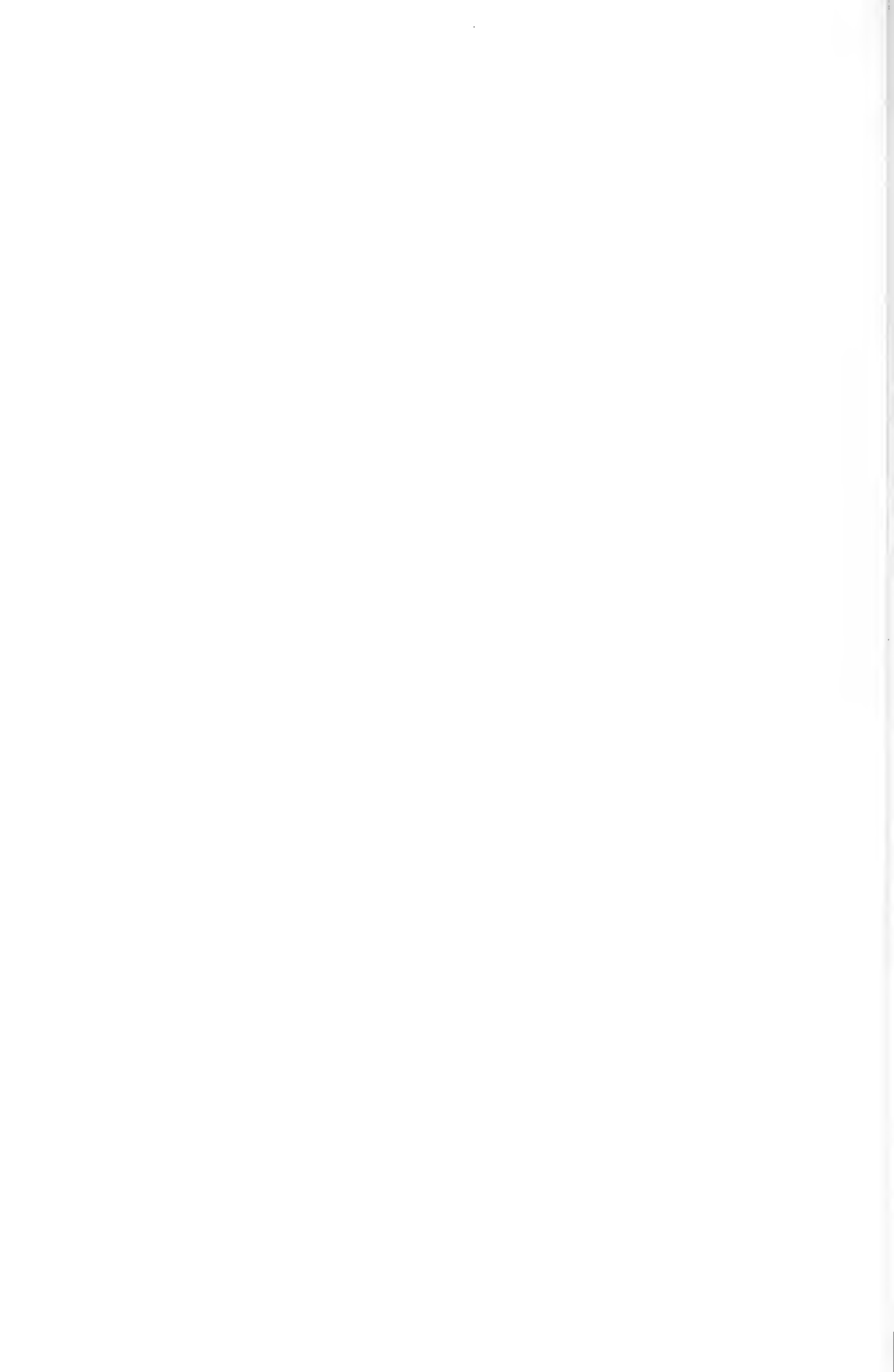
He made a specialty in procuring the pensions of Revolutionary soldiers for them and their families, being faithful both to the government and the soldiers, and his list of pensioned soldiers is probably the most complete of any in the county.

At nearly the close of his life he was induced to write his remembrances and the traditionary history of Stratfield and Bridgeport, and, although he entered upon the undertaking reluctantly, he produced a valuable manuscript book, with a map which has been used as the foundation for the map of Stratfield and the biographical sketches in connection with





BUILDING OF THE BRIDGETON BANK, ERECTED IN 1806.



it, and the record of the mercantile firms in the borough of Bridgeport from 1790 to 1815. This work, styled "Esquire Sherman's Recollections," is a valuable contribution to the history of the locality now comprised in the city of Bridgeport.

Mr. Sherman from early life gave attention to religious interests and in 1812 he and his wife united with the First Congregational church, the church of his fathers. In 1830 he was elected to the office of deacon, in which he continued in active service until 1858, and for a long period was the most active member of the society's committee, being also treasurer and clerk of the church. In his own estimation he had not much religion to speak of, but his life told a truthful story of "faith and works." So lived and labored Isaac Sherman, and rested November 23, 1863.

*The Bridgeport Bank*⁵ was incorporated, by act of the General Assembly in October, 1806; which limited the capital stock to two hundred thousand dollars, and that amount having been subscribed,⁶ a meeting of the stockholders was

⁵ This sketch of this bank is taken from a pamphlet of the same published by R. B. Lacey, Esqr., in 1885.

⁶ *The Bridgeport Bank.*

The subscription list was completed by the following names and shares:

	Shares.		Shares.
Elijah Ufford, Stratford,.....	2	Eunice Hall, New Haven,.....	1
Henry Nevins, Norwich,	1	William Elliott, North Guilford, ...	1
Asa Spaulding, Norwich,.....	4	Samuel W. Johnson, Stratford,.....	5
Jonathan Sturges, Fairfield,.....	1	Buckley, DeForest and Co., New	
George Hoyt, Bridgeport,	2	Haven,	3
James Grayham, Sandisfield,.....	1	Buckley and Austin, New Haven,..	1
Ezekiel Curtis, Huntington,....	2	Robert Fairchild, for Stratford,....	6
Jeremiah Day, New Haven,	1	James Lewis, New London,	1
James E. Beach, Stratfield,	4	Samuel Kirtland and Co., Bridgeport,	2
Samuel Watkinson, Middletown,...	5	Isaac Thompson, New London,....	1
Elijah Hubbard, Middletown,....	3	Abel Gregory, New Fairfield,.....	2
Levi Curtis, Stratford,.....	1	Foot and Nichols, Bridgeport,	1
Nathan Wheeler, Huntington,	2	Elijah Boardman, New Milford,....	4
William Haywood, Stamford,.....	1	Elijah Waterman, Bridgeport,.....	1
Asahel Tuttle, New Haven,.....	1	Thomas Wells, New Milford,.....	1
Townsend & Thompson, New Haven,	1	Lambert Lockwood, Bridgeport,....	3



held Feb. 3, 1807, at which Joseph Goodwin was chosen chairman, and the following persons were elected directors: Isaac Bronson, Birdsey Norton, Samuel W. Johnson, John S. Cannon, Salmon Hubbell, Lambert Lockwood, David Minot, Jessup Wakeman, and Ebenezer Jessup.

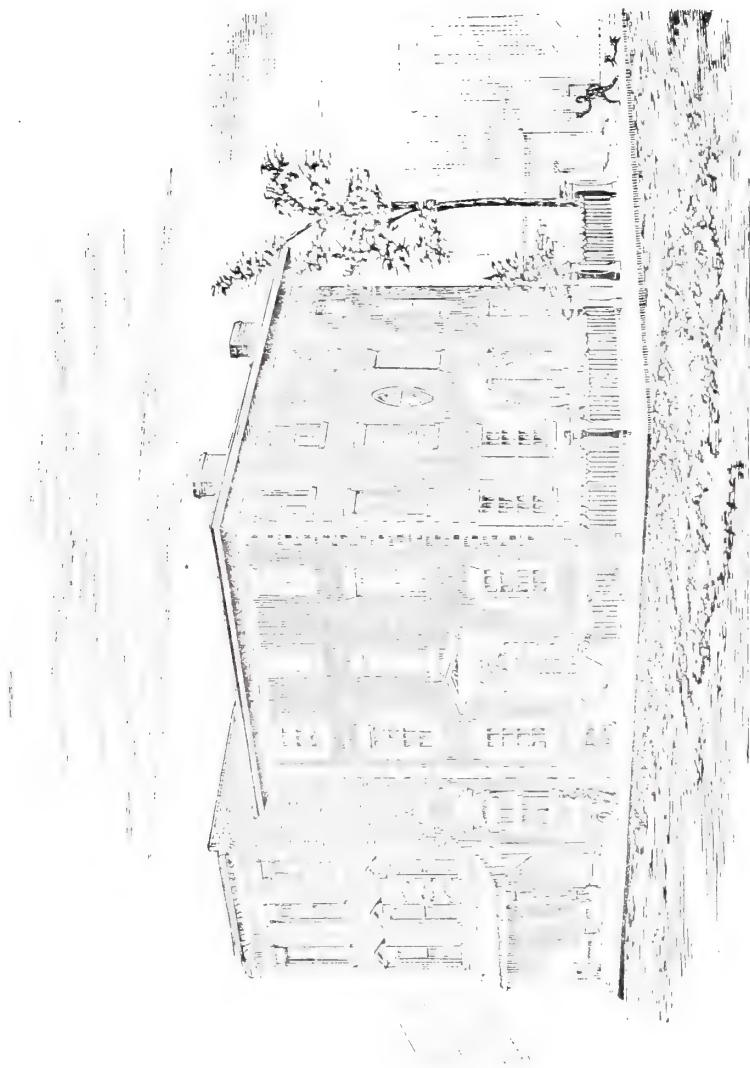
At a meeting of the directors of the Bridgeport Bank convened at the dwelling house of Ezra Gregory, inn-keeper in said Bridgeport, on the 3d of February, 1807, Isaac Bronson was, upon ballot, unanimously elected president of the bank; and in the same month a committee was appointed to purchase a lot and contract for a building; and the banking house was erected in 1808.

George Hoyt was elected cashier in March, 1807, with a salary of seven hundred dollars per annum, with the privilege of the banking-house to live in, which was soon after made one thousand, he paying for a clerk's assistance.

In 1810, in order to "prevent any collision of interest between the Derby and Bridgeport banks," Isaac Bronson was appointed a committee to make arrangements to that effect with the former bank.

	Shares.		Shares.
John S. Cannon, Bridgeport,	11	Henry Ward, New Haven,	4
William Peet, Bridgeport,	9	Matthew Marvin, Wilton,	3
Isaac Hinman, Bridgeport,	22	David Brooks, Stratford,	1
Salmon Hubbell, Bridgeport,	8	Ezra Gregory, Bridgeport,	1
John and Chauncey Deming, Farmington,	7	William Battell, Torrington,	1
Hezekiah Belding, New Haven, ...	1	Gershom Fenn, New Haven,	1
William Brintnall, New Haven, ...	2	—— Perry, Mill River,	13
Seth P. Staples, New Haven,	1	Robert Fairchild, Stratford,	1
Abijah Hawley, Bridgeport,	1	Dyer White, New Haven,	3
Daniel Nash, Norwalk,	1	Ephraim J. Wilcoxson, Stratford, ...	1
Stephen Boroughs, Bridgeport, ...	1	Samuel Smedley, Fairfield,	12
Ashbel Baldwin, Stratford,	1	Samuel Ward, Jr., New York,	2
Solomon Cowles, Farmington,	1	Joseph Goodwin, Lenox,	61
Zenas Cowles, Farmington,	4	Isaac Hinman and Co., Bridgeport, ..	16
Elijah Cowles and Co., Farmington, ..	9	Shipman, Dennison and Co., New Haven,	11
David Judson, Fairfield,	1	Birdsey Norton and Co., Goshen, ...	37
Caleb Atwater, Wallingford,	3	Nathaniel Prime, New York,	22
Reuben S. Norton, Farmington,	1	Isaac Bronson and Co., Greenfield, ..	656
Humphrey and Whitney, New York, ...	5		
		Total,	1,000





BUILDING OF THE BRIDGEPORT BANK, REMOVED IN 1857.



On January 24, 1811, in view of an apprehension of war, the bank passed the following vote: "That in the present critical situation of affairs it becomes absolutely necessary that security more than profit should be considered, and feeling that our funds in New York should be placed in the best possible situation of security, we therefore do authorize I. Bronson, Esq., to secure what sums may be due and owing to the bank in the city of New York, in any way he may judge proper for the benefit of this institution, and use his best discretion in all other matters concerning the interest of the bank to effect the purposes aforesaid."

Mr. Bronson continued in the direction of the bank for twenty-five years. He was president for the whole period, except an interval of four years, from 1823 to 1827, when he gave place to John S. Cannon, returning to the position on Mr. Cannon's death in 1827. Capt. George Hoyt continued cashier for eighteen years, until his death in 1825, when he was succeeded by his son, Josiah S. Hoyt, for seven years. During this period the bank prospered, outrode the storms of war and financial crises without the suspension of specie payments, and paid regular, and some large, extra dividends. To do this it went outside of Bridgeport and its vicinity to make loans. In 1832 Mr. Bronson sold his stock and retired from all connection with the bank.

On November 7, 1832, Ebenezer Jessup, of Saugatuck, was elected president, and a month later, the health of Josiah S. Hoyt having become impaired, Charles Hill, of Catskill, N. Y., was elected cashier. Mr. Jessup remained president until 1838, when Sylvanus Sterling, of Bridgeport, was elected president and George Burroughs cashier. Several changes were made in the amount of capital, reducing it to \$110,000, but in 1838 it was again increased and made \$210,000.

Sherman Hartwell was elected president July 4, 1849, and continued in the office until July 6, 1869, when he positively declined a reelection. During this period, in 1854-5, the banking house was repaired, another story added, and the exterior improved, at a total cost of \$6,000. At his retirement from the presidency of the bank, Mr. Hartwell had served it thirty-six years as a director, and twenty years as president;

and the directors passed the following: "*Resolved*, That the thanks of this board are due, and are hereby tendered to Sherman Hartwell for efficient and valuable services as president of this bank for the last twenty years, and as evidence of the prosperity of the bank it may be stated that it has during the said twenty years paid its stockholders in dividends the sum of \$430,700, on a capital of \$212,000, and increased its surplus \$40,000." Mr. Hartwell survived in quiet retirement until January 16, 1876, when he passed away in the fulness of years, esteemed and honored.

Mr. Munson Hawley was elected president July 6, 1869, to fill the place made vacant by the retirement of Mr. Hartwell, and proved a worthy successor. His administration for more than sixteen years has been economical, efficient and successful, for there has been paid during this period the sum of \$399,320 in dividends, and the surplus increased about \$40,000.

George Burroughs, the veteran cashier, continued his faithful service nearly four years longer, when his labor closed suddenly as he entered the banking house on the morning of March 12, 1872, having served as cashier nearly twenty-five years and as director ten years. The following was passed by the board of directors: "Whereas, by the death of our highly esteemed friend and associate, Mr. George Burroughs, who for nearly thirty-five years faithfully performed his duties as cashier of this bank, we feel that this institution has suffered an almost irreparable loss. Always at his post of duty, kind-hearted and obliging in his business transactions, honest and true in all his dealings, we most sincerely regret his loss, not only to this institution, but to the community, and we extend our united sympathy to his afflicted family in their sad bereavement which a wise Providence has called them to sustain. *Resolved*, That as a token of our regard for our late esteemed friend, the Board of Directors of this bank will attend his funeral in a body."

At the death of Mr. Burroughs Mr. Frank N. Benham was appointed cashier and has served faithfully and acceptably for twelve years, and for the last three years as a director.



The list of directors during the existence of the bank, numbers eighty-five names.

Of the present board of directors, only one, Mr. R. B. Lacey, served under the old system, he having first entered the board in 1857, and none of the rest earlier than 1869. The names of the present board are: Munson Hawley, Thomas B. Bartram, Plumb N. Fairchild, Carlos Curtis, Thomas B. DeForest, Rowland B. Lacey, David M. Read, John M. Wheeler, Frank N. Bartram.

The bank has had seven presidents: Isaac Bronson, who served twenty-one years; John S. Cannon, four years; Ebenezer Jessup, five years; Sylvanus Sterling, eleven years; Hanford Lyon, one year; Sherman Hartwell, twenty years; Munson Hawley, sixteen years; and it has had five cashiers; George Hoyt, eighteen years; Josiah S. Hoyt, seven years; Charles Hill, five years; George Burroughs, thirty-five years; Frank N. Benham, twelve years.

Doct. Isaac Bronson, son of Isaac and Mary (Brockett) Bronson, was born in Middlebury, Conn., March 10, 1760. After improving the privileges of the common schools and studying medicine with Doct. Lemuel Hopkins, of Hartford, he entered the Revolutionary army as a junior surgeon, Nov. 14, 1779, in the Connecticut line under the immediate command of General Washington, and served efficiently through the war. He then made a voyage to India, traveled in Europe, returned to the United States about 1789, and soon after married Anna, daughter of Thomas Olcott, of Waterbury, but previously of Stratford. About the year 1692 he settled in Philadelphia, where he remained two years, during which that city was visited with a severe yellow fever epidemic, in which the doctor served very successfully as a physician, and it has been currently reported that he there accumulated property which was the foundation of his subsequent financial success.

After this, for a time, he pursued the business of a banker in New York City. In 1796 he purchased the property of Timothy Dwight, D.D., on Greenfield Hill, Conn., intending it for a summer residence, but it became his settled habitation, and while residing there in 1807 he became the presi-



dent of the Bridgeport bank. In this office he continued—with an interval of four years—a faithful and honored officer until 1832, when he retired. He died at his home on Greenfield Hill May 19, 1839, in his 80th year.

Doctor Bronson's banking career, extending, as it did, through two great financial crises—that of 1812 and 1836 and 7—was one of extensive influence as well as financial success. The papers of Hon. Roger Minot Sherman show that there was much conference between himself and Doctor Bronson in regard to financial questions, and there is good reason to believe that the independent treasury-system of the United States, which succeeded the breakdown of the United States Bank under the administration of General Jackson, was formulated after and mainly in accordance with the suggestions of these masterly minds.

Doctor Bronson gave much attention to his farm at Greenfield Hill, supervising personally the smallest matters, as well as the greatest, of improvement about his home, which still exhibits his genius, skill and labor.

John S. Cannon came to Bridgeport from Norwalk about 1790, a merchant of some wealth. His residence was on the site of the Waller Building, corner of Water street and Fairfield avenue, and was associated in business with Lambert Lockwood. They built their store and wharf on the present site of Baruch Ellis's stone yard about 1792, and conducted a general trade in dry goods and groceries, and run a regular packet to New York, the vessel being the sloop *Juba*, sailed by Capt. John Brooks, Sen. Mr. Cannon owned the next store south of the above, which he rented to Isaac Sherman and John Brooks, Jr., and others.

Lambert Lockwood came to Bridgeport from Wilton, Conn., about 1790, and had his residence on the north side of State street, on the site of the brick block between the houses of the late Doct. David H. Nash and Doct. Robert Hubbard. In personal appearance he was possessed of a full stature, fine presence and affable manner.

He was a public spirited man, connected with the Congregational church. His house, more than any other, was a

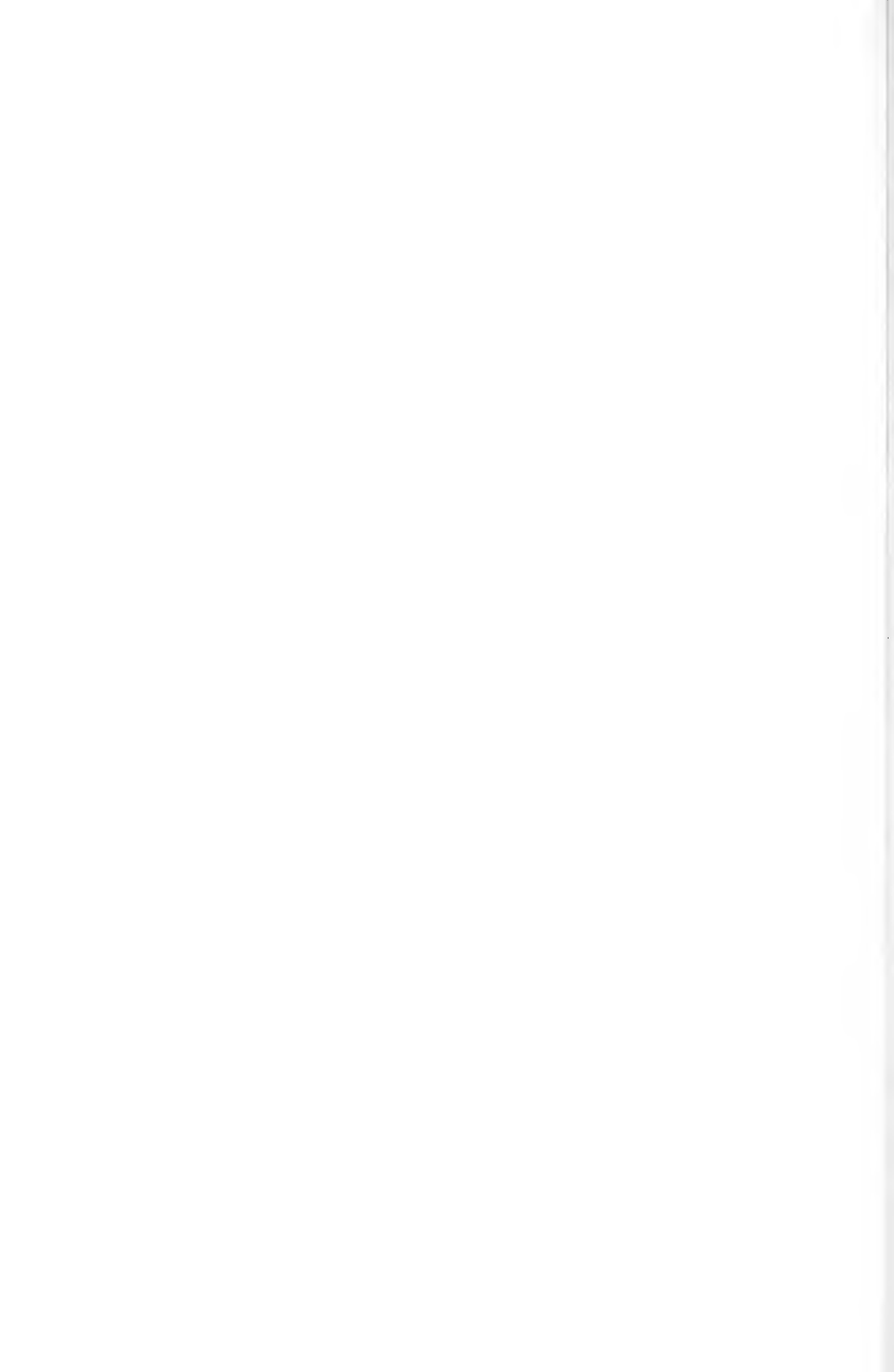


home for visiting clergymen in his time. His son, Roe Lockwood, was a well known bookseller of New York. Another of his sons, the Rev. Peter Lockwood, was a useful Presbyterian minister. In later life he was connected with books and stationery and printing, having the late David Sterling, Jr., as an assistant or partner. He was justice of the peace and grand jurymen and sometimes was called upon to quell disturbances.

On one occasion Mr. Lockwood made a social evening call upon John S. Cannon, wearing a new broad cloth coat. When about to leave for home it was found to be raining severely. Mr. Lockwood remarked that he did not like to wet his new coat and inquired of Mr. Cannon if he had an old coat he could wear instead of his own. Mr. Cannon said he had, and soon brought it forth. This Mr. Lockwood put on and departed for home, leaving his new coat. Soon after reaching home he heard a rap at his door, and behold Mr. Cannon appeared wearing Mr. Lockwood's coat, drenched by another shower that had overtaken him on the way, to make the exchange before he should sleep.

Salmon Hubbell came to Bridgeport, also from Wilton, about 1790, and had his residence on the bluff, fronting Water street, south of and adjoining Mr. Cannon; the house having been taken down about 1873. He was a captain and paymaster in the Continental army, and participated in the taking of Stony Point fort under General Wayne. He wrote a peculiarly elegant hand, which may be seen on the early borough and town records. He conducted a dry goods and grocery store on the northwest corner of Water and State streets more than twenty years, to 1815. He was the first town clerk of Bridgeport, to which office he was elected several years from 1820. He was brother of Capt. Thaddeus Hubbell.

Isaac Hinman came from Trumbull. He first resided on the corner of Main and Bank streets and afterwards on the corner of Wall and Water streets, which later became the Washington Hotel and was kept for many years by his son, the well known Capt. Munson Hinman. He kept a store on



the south side of State street, but on the erection of the new block—now old—on the north side of State street, between the post office and Main street, he removed to it and opened a distinctively dry goods store. Richard Hyde married one of his daughters, and was associated with and succeeded him in the business. Mr. Hinman died in middle life. Mr. Hyde was prominently identified with the dry goods trade many years.

William Peet was a successful business man of the old school. His residence was a large old fashioned house with two front rooms with a wide hall extending from the front to the rear, standing on the site of the present post office building, fronting on State street. Though in later years it was skirted with stores on each side, yet with its liberal piazza and front yard filled with shrubbery, it was very noticeable and attractive. He was a tanner and currier, and his yard was located on Broad street between Cannon and John streets. The remains of the old vats were but recently taken from the site of Messrs. Hincks and Johnson's new factory. In connection with Sheldon Smith, as Peet and Smith, he conducted the manufacture and sale of saddlery in and over the store next east of and adjoining his residence on State street. This business was enlarged by adding to the firm William Wright, who opened a store in Charleston, S. C., soon after the close of the war of 1812, under the name of Peet, Smith and Company. The business was successful and although he retired from it early, it added much to Mr. Peet's wealth.

He reared an excellent family; among them was an Episcopal clergyman and two successful business men in New York City, while another followed the business of his father in this city. One daughter married William Wright, above mentioned, who, after a successful business career, became governor of New Jersey and United States senator from that state; and another married the late Hon. Henry K. Harral, who also followed the saddlery business in Charleston, S. C., New York city, and Bridgeport, with great success. Mr. Peet survived most of his associates and came to his death full of years.



Capt. David Minot was a man of wealth for his time. His business firm consisted of David Minot, Stephen Summers and William DeForest. They carried on the Boston coasting trade successfully for a number of years previous to 1810, in the store located a little north of the foot of State street, which had been previously occupied by Richard and Amos Hubbell. He was quite a conspicuous person in the community, ranking, probably, next to John S. Cannon. They were leaders in public matters, and each retained his connection with the bank until his death. Mr. Minot's residence was on State street identical with the green on the east side of the present court-house. He died in 1830.

Samuel William Johnson, of Stratford, was the son of Judge Wm. Samuel Johnson and grandson of Dr. Samuel Johnson, and was a prominent citizen of the county and State. He served the bank eight years, frequently as president *pro tem.* of the meetings of the board of directors, the relation ceasing in 1814.

Ezra Gregory, Sen., came to Bridgeport from Wilton in 1796. His house, situated on the west side of Main street at the head of Wall, was occupied by him for many years as a public house or tavern. He was one of the original stockholders of the bank and all the early meetings of the stockholders and board of directors were held at his house, until the bank building was completed. He was a director of the bank from 1817 to 1821. His house was burned with many others in the great fire in 1845. He was deputy sheriff and a prominent citizen, as was also his son, Ezra, Jr., in 1840, and many years after. His daughter married Jesse Sterling, from Trumbull, a successful dry goods merchant, postmaster, and in the later years of his life, treasurer of the Housatonic Railroad Company.

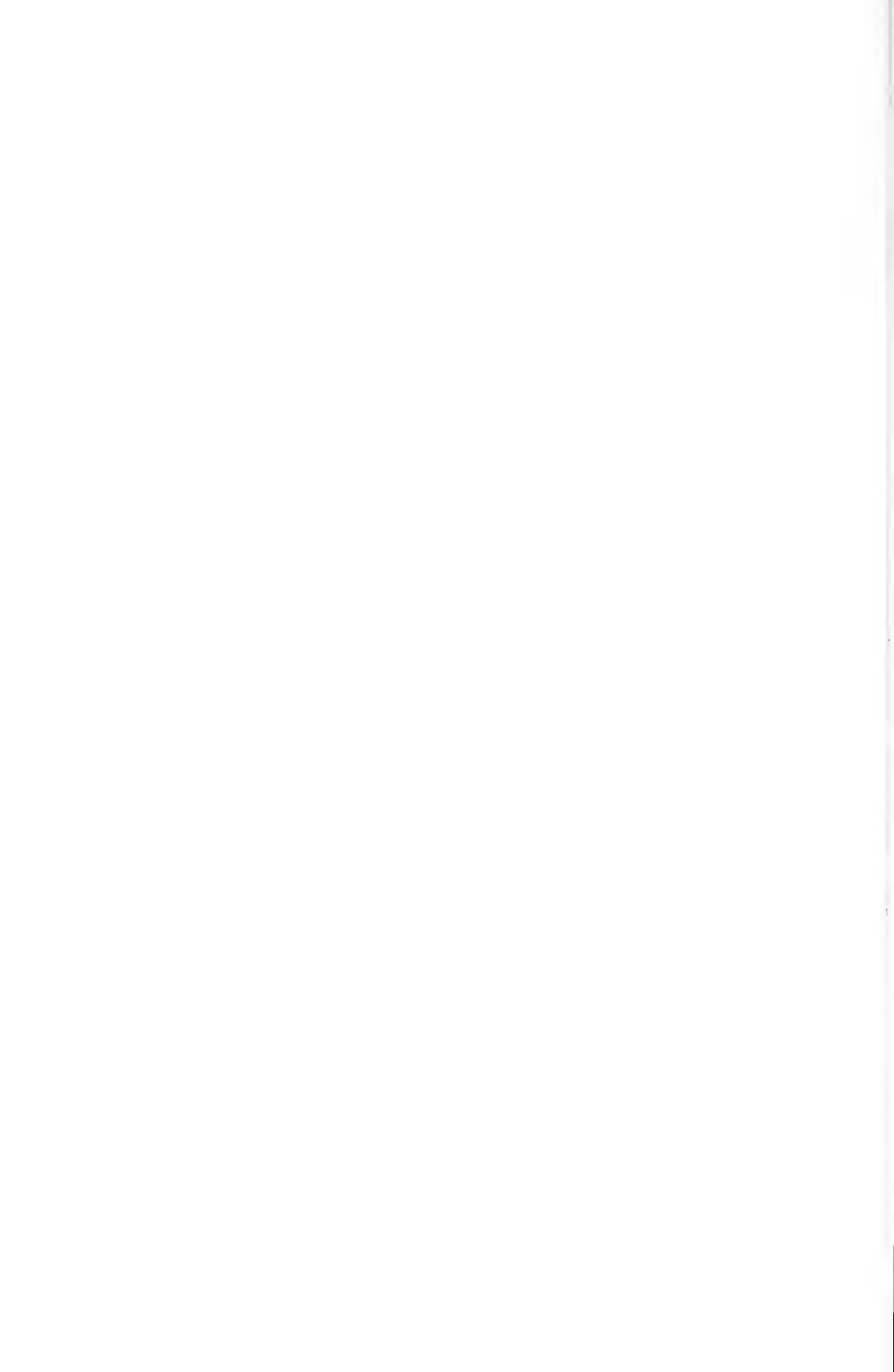
Hon. Elijah Boardman was a prominent citizen and merchant of New Milford. He was a grandson of the Rev. Daniel and Jerusha (Sherman) Boardman and therefore was a great grandson of Dea. David Sherman, of Stratfield. His business career extended from 1782 to 1819, and was very successful. In 1795 he became leading member of the Con-



necticut Land Company, and therefore one of the purchasers of the Western Reserve, now comprising a considerable portion of the northern part of the State of Ohio. He attended in person to the survey and sale of a large proportion of the section divided to his company, and derived considerable income from the sale. He was a representative in his own State and in the upper house or senate from 1818 to 1821, and was a representative in the 17th congress, and having been elected to the United States senate for six years, was a member of that body at his decease, which occurred in Ohio during one of his visits there in 1823. He was a director of this bank from 1808 to 1817-18. His personal appearance was unusually elegant, affable and refined. His business talents were uncommonly good and his constancy in their use was rarely surpassed. The late Hon. William W. Boardman, of New Haven, was his son.

Capt. George Hoyt was a native of Bridgeport. He owned and resided in a house built by his father before the Revolution on the high bluff on the west side of Water street, about two hundred feet south of State street. In his earlier days he was a seaman in the employ of John S. Cannon or his firm. His fine business qualities were well known and at the organization of the Bridgeport bank he was elected the first cashier, which position he filled with great acceptance eighteen years, until his death in July, 1825.

Abijah Hawley was a representative of one of the oldest, most numerous and prominent families in the early settlement of Stratford and Stratfield. The Hawley family was among the most wealthy at the start, and as they branched out from the old homestead they were everywhere thrifty, acquiring large tracts of land, and in Bridgeport they were among the first for adventure and successful trade. "As rich as the Hawley's," was a familiar phrase among the people seventy years ago. The rule had its exceptions, but was so applicable as to become a common saying. Isaac Sherman, Esq., speaks as follows of the firm of Abijah Hawley and Company: "It was composed of Abijah, Aaron and Wilson Hawley. They carried on the Boston coasting grain business



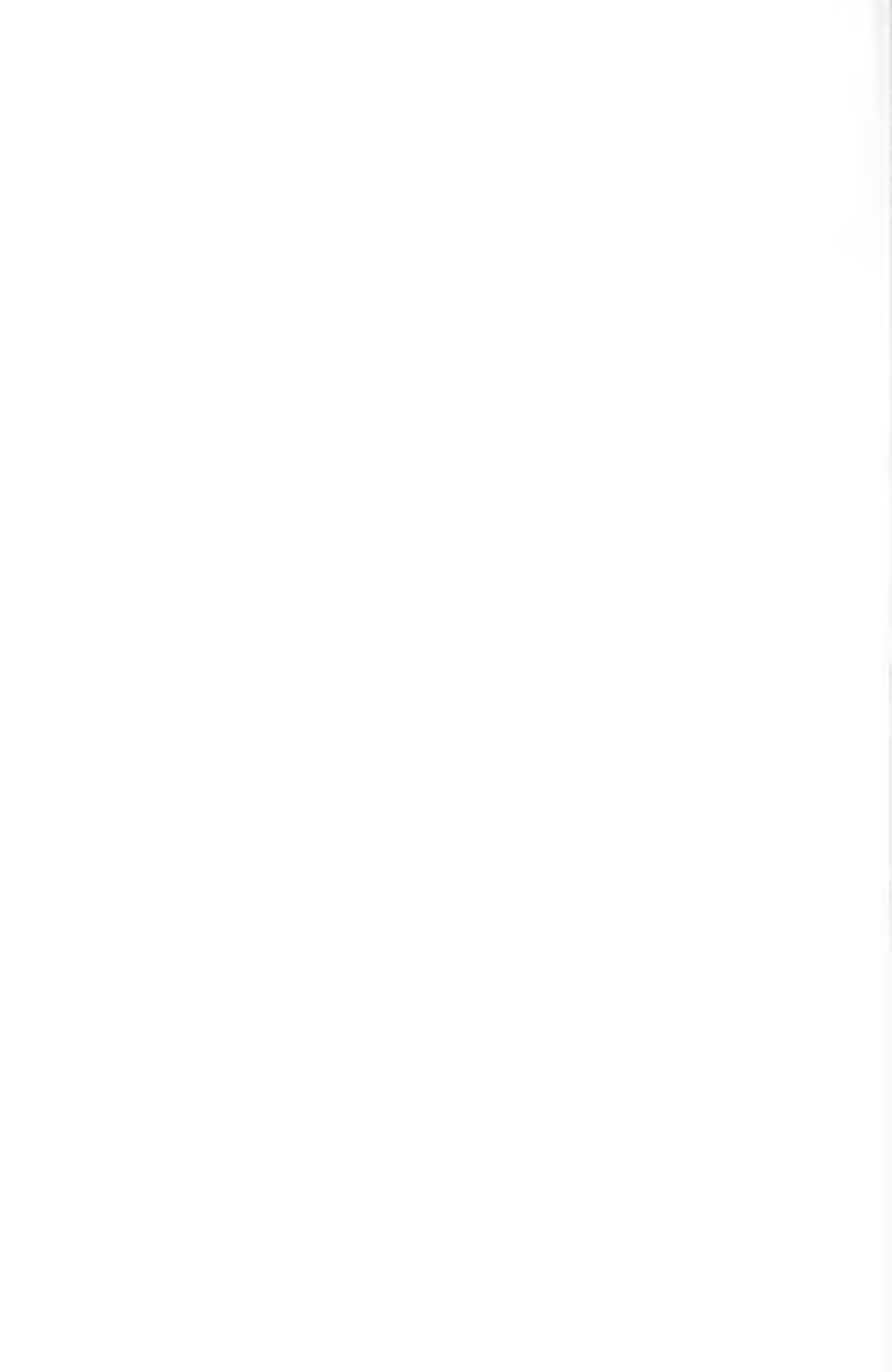


UNITED BANK BUILDING, ERECTED IN 1884 AND 85.



and West India trade. Their coaster was called the Three Sisters, probably from the wives of the partners, who were all daughters of Capt. Stephen Summers; and their New York packet was the sloop Caroline, and they were very successful for many years. Their store and wharf were on Water street a little south of State street, the grain elevator of Mr. John Hurd occupying about the same site. Abijah Hawley was the sixth generation from Joseph Hawley, the first settler of the name in Stratford, through Samuel, of Stratford; Dea. Thomas, Capt. Ezra and Thomas, of Stratfield. The last was the father of Abijah, whose residence was on the west side of Water street corner of Thomas. The following were children of Abijah and Polly (Summers) Hawley: George, Abijah, Thomas, Emeline and Munson. The first two followed the water for many years. Thomas was a merchant, the founder of the well known hardware house of T. Hawley and Company. Emeline married Dea. George Sterling, and Munson, who has been a successful merchant, and who in later years has given his attention to banking, has been for the last sixteen and a half years the efficient president of this bank, and now at the age of more than four score years it may be said of him, that his eye (to business) has not become dimmed, nor his natural force abated.

The United Bank Building, erected in 1885, by the Bridgeport National Bank and the City Savings Bank, situated on the northeast corner of Main and Bank streets, is constructed with granite copings and steps, with rock-faced Springfield brown stone extending to the height of the second story on the front and one story on the side. Above, the materials are Trenton pressed brick with brown stone trimmings. The main entrance is situated in the center of the building, on Main street, and the banking room floor is reached through a commodious vestibule by a broad flight of slate steps. The side walls of vestibule and main halls are composed of enamelled brick laid in neat geometrical patterns. The floor of the hall on the first floor and of the business portion of both banking rooms is of white marble tiles. There is a commodious staircase leading to the second floor, composed entirely of iron and slate.



The building contains three stores, accommodations for two banks, and thirteen offices; it has also ample storage room on the third floor, which is reached by a circular iron staircase. The structure is heated throughout by steam and the best of plumbing appliances have been introduced. The store and office floors are finished in pine; the banking room floors and halls in cherry in the natural wood. The vaults in the banking rooms are among the best ever built in this country and are furnished with the latest improvements of all kinds; their exterior surfaces are built of enamelled brick in the same manner as the main halls.

The building was designed for strength, convenience and utility; no effort was made for elaborate or ornate architectural display, but a general appearance of solidity and strength was aimed at: it was the aim of the designer to indicate exteriorly the purpose for which the interior was to be used. The style of architecture adopted was a modified Gothic in combination with heavy Romanesque arches; the architect relied more upon the contrasting colors of the materials used and the grouping of the entrances and windows for his effects than upon elaborate detail. He aimed not only to obtain pleasant and commodious quarters for the banks, at an easily accessible height above the sidewalk level, but at the same time to utilize the space underneath the banks for business purposes. The problem thus presented was solved by the introduction of stores with areas in front. This led to much adverse criticism while the building was being constructed, but the ready rental of the stores and their popularity is the best and most conclusive argument that the bank officials acted wisely in adopting this mode of construction.

Shipping and Shipmasters.

As early as 1760 the mouth of the Pequonnock river was called the harbor, but previously it had been called the Pequonnock river, showing that not very remote from that date vessels began to come up the river to load and unload. Previous to the death of Richard Nichols in 1756, the shipping business—whatever it was—was done at what is called the Berkshire Pond. Not long after this a store and wharf



were built by Philip Nichols at the south end of Pembroke street, or the Point, and about the same time or soon after—a little before the Revolution—loading and unloading vessels began on the west side of the harbor, and this locality as early as 1777, was called Newfield, and the mouth of the river Newfield Harbor.⁶

The beginning of shipyards in the Pequonnock river must date about 1720 and continued to enlarge in proportions until after 1800; and the result was that many of the farmers held property in vessels and their sons learned to be sailors and commanders of these and other vessels. Before the Revolution, but especially after it, trade with the West Indies was of commanding proportions, and when Bridgeport began to spread out as a seaport town just after the year 1800, the coast trade to Boston, New York and Baltimore and the West Indies was largely the cause of the rapid growth of the borough. "The West India trade was a very considerable interest quite early and continued to be prosecuted as late as 1840. The parish mill site was on Pequonnock river at what is known as Pequonnock Mills. The West India trade made brisk times for the coopers and millers, and led to the construction of the Yellow Mill and Berkshire dams and mills, using tide water as a power."

"The success of the whaling business in eastern ports led to investments in that business here."

The Bridgeport Whaling Company was incorporated in May, 1833, with a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars; the following persons being named as corporators: Eben Fairchild, Daniel Tomlinson, David P. Minot, Samuel F. Hurd and David Perry.⁸ This company owned and fitted the following ships—the Harvest, Hamilton, Atlantic and Steiglitz.

A company was also formed for fishing on the banks of

⁶ Historical Notes of Major Wm. B. Hincks.

⁷ Report of Bridgeport Board of Trade for 1878, p. 32.

⁸ Conn. Private Acts, First Series, i. 590.



New Foundland, in charge of Captain E. Doane, but the company was not particularly successful.⁹

The Bridgeport Steamboat Company was incorporated in May, 1824; the persons named being: Daniel Sterling, Enoch Foote, Ransom C. Canfield, Isaac Sherman, Thomas C. Wordin and Wilson Hawley, with a capital stock not to exceed thirty thousand dollars. Wilson Hawley, Daniel Sterling, Thomas C. Wordin, Reuben Tweedy and Isaac Sherman were the first directors of this company.¹⁰

Only two companies had been previously incorporated in this State for the purpose of navigation by steam; the first was secured in October, 1818, and named "The Connecticut Steamboat Company;" the second, The Connecticut River Steamboat Company, in May, 1823.

⁹ *Log-Book of Ship Atlantic*

On her third voyage to the south Atlantic and Indian Oceans, whaling, during the years 1837-8 and 9; having departed from Bridgeport, Conn., on July 22d, 1837, returning on April 12th, 1839.

Master, WM. POST.

1st Mate, JOE BABCOCK.

2d " JOHN LEWIS.

3d " EDWARD HOWEL.

Recapitulation.

The voyage has occupied 629 days. The ship has been at sea 567 days. According to calculations made at the end of each day the whole distance sailed is 46,640 miles. The whole number of whales seen, making no allowance for the same ones seen at different times, is 901, of which 165 are sperm. The total number struck is 75. The number of whales taken, including one found dead, is 34, of which ten were females. The whole number of pleasant days (tolerable whaling weather), is 462, as may be seen by the following table, where the pleasant or whaling days, whales seen, whales struck, and whales obtained, are arranged against the several days of the week.

Pleasant.	Whales seen.	Whales struck.	Whales obtained.
Sundays, ----- 70	170	15	9
Mondays, ----- 64	181	6	4
Tuesdays, ----- 66	114	13	6
Wednesdays, ----- 69	127	18	5
Thursdays, ----- 65	123	10	4
Fridays, ----- 65	86	8	5
Saturdays, ----- 63	106	5	1
462	907	75	34

¹⁰ Conn. Private Acts, First Series, ii. 1106.



The following charters were granted by the Connecticut General Assembly with and following that of Bridgeport:

The Bridgeport Steamboat Company, May, 1824.

The Hartford Steamboat Company, May, 1824.

The New Haven Steamboat Company, May, 1824.

The Norwalk and New York Steamboat Association, May, 1824.

The Ousatonic Steamboat Company, May, 1825. This company was to run steamboats between Derby and New York, and their boat "Ousatonic" was running on that line the next year.

The Stamford Steamboat Company, May, 1825.

The Steam Navigation Company, May, 1825.

By a letter to Roger M. Sherman dated January 8, 1838, it is seen that the boat named Fairfield was running on the Bridgeport line, but had then discontinued her trips for the winter. The steamboat Nimrod, Captain John Brooks, was on this line quite a number of years, and is still remembered by many individuals.

The number of men who "followed the sea" from Bridgeport as well as Stratford, would make a long list, and comprise many who were in their day well known to the merchants of New York. A few illustrations are here given at length as affording more interest than the list, if that could be obtained.

The grave-stone inscriptions of this region reveal the sad fate of many who sailed from these ports never to return. The probate records show that fathers and brothers, remembering the perils of the great deep, recorded their wills as a settlement of all earthly estates, before passing out of these harbors on their long journeys.

In addition to the illustrations here following, a list of sea captains, from fifty to one hundred, who were raised in the territory of old Stratford, might be obtained, who sailed, not as far away, but by many perils, successes and disasters, like those whose records are given.



Capt. Ezekiel Hubbell,¹¹ of Bridgeport, son of John and Eleanor (Burr) Hubbell, was born in Fairfield, Conn., April 5, 1768. After enjoying all the advantages of an early education, at the age of fourteen he was employed as clerk on board of vessels belonging to Richard and Amos Hubbell, well-known merchants trading between Newfield (Bridgeport) and the West Indies. Soon manifesting great confidence in himself, he not only took charge of the cargo and business of the concern, but also the command of the vessel as a merchant navigator, called in those days captain and supercargo, both positions being filled by the same person. In 1797, owing to his industry and perseverance, he became managing owner of two fine vessels, the brig *Caroline* and the ship *Sally* and *Betsey*, and became also interested in other vessels of smaller capacity. Next he took command of the armed ship *Citizen*, of New York city, which carried sixteen guns and was manned with a crew of fifty men, and in her he made several voyages to Havana. The New York "Commercial Advertiser" of July 15, 1798, says: "Ship *Citizen*, Hubbell, master, off Newfield, Thursday last, via Halifax, where she had been taken by an English cruiser, and after a close examination of the crew and papers, was released." The same paper of December 6, 1798, says: "This day came up the armed ship *Citizen*, Capt. E. Hubbell, sixteen guns, nineteen days from Havana. Came out with eighteen vessels under convoy, and parted with them on the coast. Left a French privateer lying off Havana, but she did not seem inclined to come out. Flour, \$6½; sugars, 6^s to 7^s cwt. Cotton goods prohibited."

Early in 1799 he ventured in the same ship (*Citizen*) to Vera Cruz, in the Gulf of Mexico, and endeavored to open a trade and dispose of the investment he had on board, adapted to the wants of the inhabitants of the city of Mexico. Disappointed in gaining permission to land his goods, he proceeded to Honduras, thence to Havana and New York.

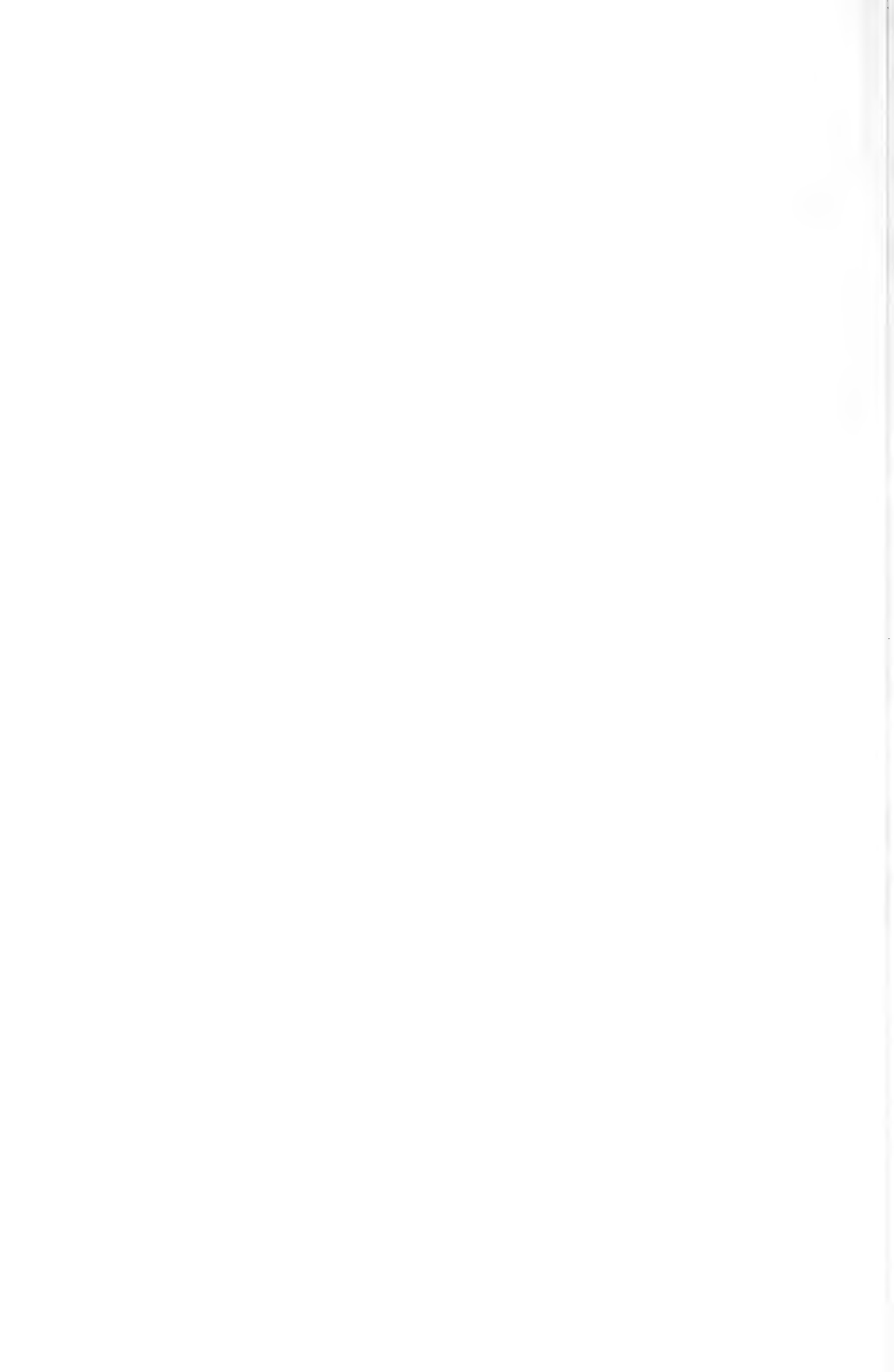
The information Captain Hubbell obtained at Vera Cruz of the vast wealth of the Spaniards in their South American

¹¹ History of the Burr Family, 96.



States on the Pacific coast, and the fabulous reports of the demand for certain descriptions of goods, enabled him, on returning home, to plan an important and enterprising venture to those countries. Being a man of great prudence yet indomitable energy, he at once enlisted the confidence of his friends, purchased the ship *Enterprise*, of 250 tons, and joined capital with Isaac Moses and Son, and Hoyt and Tom, each owning one-third of the ship and cargo. After taking on board an invoice of costly goods, of little bulk, adapted to the wants of the Spaniards in Chili and Peru, and in addition, to guard against possible failure and disappointment, as at Vera Cruz, shipping a quantity of goods suited for traffic with the Indians on the northwest coast of America, he sailed from New York in October, 1799, with intelligent officers and a reliable crew, numbering thirty men and boys. Making slow progress in crossing the equator and coming into the high southern latitudes with lengthening days, they decided to seek a harbor on the east coast of Patagonia, which they effected in the latitude of about 45° south, where they cleaned the ship of barnacles and sea grass, for further and swifter progress. Passing Cape Horn early in February, after a stormy and tempestuous time, they were favored in the Pacific Ocean with fine southerly breezes, which carried them along the coast of Patagonia and southern Chili, and about the first of March, 1800, anchored in the harbor of Valparaiso.

As many of the crew were suffering with scurvy for the want of vegetables, of which they had been without for many months, the governor granted permission for the ship to remain in port for a reasonable time, but as no vessels except those bearing the Spanish flag were allowed to enter the port for purposes of trade, the *Enterprise* was closely watched and guarded, by revenue officers. During this stay Captain Hubbell obtained a passport to visit the capital, Santiago de Chili, ninety miles in the interior, and was the first citizen of the United States allowed to visit that city. He was especially noticed by the Viceroy, General O'Higgins, upon whom he called, and requested to land and sell his cargo under any restrictions His Excellency might see fit to enjoin.



While permission was refused, yet the beautiful city was shown to him and he returned to his vessel. Lingerig at Valparaiso for ten days he succeeded in making a conditional sale for the greater portion of his cargo to the governor, deliverable at Concepcion, a bay about three hundred miles south of Valparaiso. After arranging the terms an agent was placed on board the vessel, who, after it had sailed, examined the cargo, and following instructions, they approached Concepcion Bay, where a payment of 150,000 Spanish dollars was to be made on board, in advance of the delivery of the goods. The morning was fair, the scenery magnificent, a beautiful bay and harbor could be seen, overtopped by the snow-capped Cordilleras in the distance, as the ship glided to her haven. The agent landed and proceeded towards a thicket at a short distance, but instead of finding friends to answer his countersign, he was surprised by a squad of cavalry in ambush. Seeing at once the treachery of the officers and his own defeat, he sprang for his life towards the boat, into which the crew took refuge also, he barely escaping the coils of a lasso as they pushed off for the ship, which was reached in safety except a wound received by one of the officers from the ambush. Some years afterwards it was learned that the governor's friends betrayed him and the silver coin sent to Concepcion Bay was seized by the viceroy and confiscated.

Captain Hubbell then sailed toward the northwest coast of America, and approaching the coast of New Spain he stood into the harbor of San Blas, with the hope of landing the Spanish agent, but being fired upon from the forts he continued his course northerly to Nootka Sound. At this place and the adjacent coasts he traded such suitable goods as he had with the Indians for their valuable furs, and proceeded to China, calling at the Sandwich Islands and the Russian settlements near Kamtschatka, where he sold them at a great price, with which he purchased a large portion of a cargo of cheap Bohea tea and other goods. Sailing in January he arrived off Bridgeport, in Long Island Sound, June 27, 1802, one hundred and forty days from Canton on his way to New York City. Being the first navigator of the



globe from New York, his arrival caused much excitement. Many of his friends had mourned for him as lost for he had not been heard from during his absence of nearly three years."

In the spring of 1803 Captain Hubbell purchased an interest in the Catharine Ray, a fine vessel of about 200 tons, and took command of her as captain and supercargo, on a voyage to China, with a view to an important investment in silks, which voyage was performed in regular course, returning to New York in the spring of 1804. Under a similar arrangement with the same owners he made a second voyage to China, returning home in the spring of 1805, when the vessel was sold.

In May, 1805, he resumed the command of his old ship, Citizen, under the auspices of the firm of Hoyt and Tom, and fitted her for a voyage to China, which was performed by investing \$150,000 in Spanish coin in the purchase of silks, he receiving only his commission, and returned to New York in May, 1806. In October, 1807, he sailed on another voyage to China, in the ship Augustus, owned by Isaac Moses and Son, Hoyt and Tom, and himself, stopping on his way at the Isle of France, where he purchased a cargo of cotton. Disposing of his cotton at Canton he, after some unexpected delays and difficulties, shipped a cargo of tea, upon the recommendation of Houqua, the senior Hong merchant, to whom, in want of sufficient funds, he gave the following note :

CANTON, CHINA, January 15, 1808.

"\$103,000. Twelve months after date, for value received, I promise to pay to the order of Houqua, Hong merchant, one hundred and three thousand dollars for cargo of tea per ship Augustus, with interest at 12 per cent. per anum.

EZEKIEL HUBBELL."

Leaving Canton he sailed for Amsterdam, Holland, for the sale of his tea, but on arriving at Plymouth, in the English Channel, found that in consequence of war between England and Holland the port of Amsterdam was blockaded. After consulting London merchants he proceeded on his

¹² It is stated that another vessel from New York had been around the globe, completing the voyage in 1799.



voyage through the North Sea, where, after some delay, lying in sight of the blockading squadron, he ran the blockade in the night. The sun rose brightly the next morning and found the good ship *Augustus* embedded in the sandy beach, near the main channel to Amsterdam, fully protected by the fortifications, while in the distant offing the British fleet was seen powerless to reach her. Permission being obtained from Louis Bonaparte, then King of Holland, the cargo was soon landed in the king's warehouses at Amsterdam, from which it was afterwards disposed of through the aid of London merchants, and Captain Hubbell returned to New York, arriving in December, 1808. After enormous expenses the result, still, was a large profit, leaving Captain Hubbell, for those days, not only independent, but rich. He paid his note, which was receipted as follows: "Received pay in full, with interest, as adjusted, \$119,000. HOUQUA."

Under this Captain Hubbell wrote: "Paid, thank God! E. H."

From 1809 until 1812 Captain Hubbell resided at his country home in Bridgeport, where he occupied his time in gratifying his tastes and assisting his friends in their various pursuits in life. In 1813 he entered into an extensive speculation by purchasing large tracts of woodlands near West Point, on the Hudson river, with the object of furnishing ship timber, but the enterprise proved a losing investment. This, with other losses in consequence of the war, led him again to project foreign adventure.

In 1817, after nine years spent mostly in retirement, he planned a voyage to the eastern world, and in combination with his friends Hoyt and Tom and others, sailed in his old ship, *Citizen*, as captain and supercargo, with ample means in Spanish dollars, for Manila. There he loaded with sugars and indigo, and returned to New York, realizing but moderate returns on the expenditures and risks. Retaining his interest in the *Citizen*, she was despatched again to Manila in the spring of 1819, under the command of Captain Loring, with Captain Hubbell's son George William, then twenty-three years of age, on board as supercargo in charge of the business of the ship. She loaded at Manila for Hamburg, where she arrived in May, 1820. His son, after dispatching



the ship from Hamburg back to Manila, in charge of Captain Loring as master and supercargo, returned to New York, where he arrived in February, 1821.

Captain Hubbell continued to reside at his home in Bridgeport from the spring of 1818 until 1821, when he embarked in the ship *Ajax*, a new vessel in which he was interested, and the building of which he superintended. His two sons, George William and Henry Wilson, the former twenty-five and the latter sixteen years of age, were passengers on this voyage, and had in view the establishing of a mercantile house in Manila. The *Ajax* sailed from New York April 21, 1821, and arrived at Manila the following August, after 120 days passage. She loaded and returned to New York, arriving in May, 1822, leaving his sons at Manila, who during the year prepared a cargo for the *Ajax* on her return as a regular trader in the monsoon season. Captain Hubbell made four voyages in the *Ajax*, taking out valuable investments of English and French manufactures adapted to the wants of that people. The *Ajax* was finally sold, and within four months afterwards, in August, 1825, foundered in crossing the Atlantic on a voyage to England.

In June, 1825, he took command of the ship *Sabina*, and proceeded to Manila, where he loaded and arrived home April 22, 1826, bringing with him his younger son.

On December 26, 1826, he sailed on a voyage in the ship *Sabina* to Rio Janeiro and Valparaiso (where he landed under very different circumstances from those encountered on his former visit to Chili in 1801), thence to Lima and Pata in Peru, Guayaquil, in Ecuador, thence to the Sandwich Islands, and thence to Manila. At the latter place he loaded his ship from proceeds of treasure which was taken over in the ship from Lima, together with returns from cocoa shipped from Guayaquil, and sandal wood from the Sandwich Islands. After an absence of fifteen months and eighteen days he arrived at New York April 14, 1828, in a passage of one hundred and eighteen days from Manila. His son, Henry Wilson, in the capacity of supercargo, was with him throughout the voyage. This was Captain Hubbell's last voyage.

The following extract is from a letter written by Capt. Hubbell under date Dec. 7, 1833:



"I have retired from going to sea, some five or six years, but to give you some idea of my travels, I have traveled 245,000 geographical miles since I passed my fourteenth year, which distance was made up in eight voyages to the Indies, which average over 30,000 miles each voyage. I am 65 years of age—now set myself down in this village enjoying the fruits of my travels and for passtime accepted the Presidency of the Connecticut Bank, which has been in operation two years very successfully thus far."

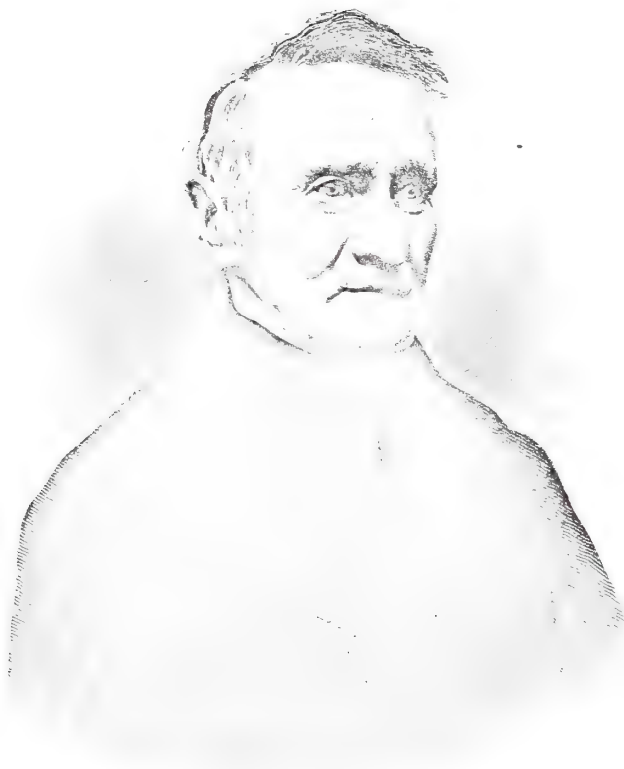
Capt. Hubbell was a member of the First Congregational Church in Bridgeport, to which he was strongly attached. He died from the effects of an influenza April 1, 1834.

George William Hubbell and Henry Wilson Hubbell, sons of Capt. Ezekiel Hubbell, were captains, supercargos and merchantmen, and followed the sea most of their lives. George William, after traveling round the globe many times, performing efficient and successful service as a merchant, died at Manila, Philippine Islands, May 3, 1831, aged 35 years. Henry Wilson continued to follow the sea as a merchant more than twenty years after the decease of his brother, and his voyages in distance sailed sums up to over 370,000 miles.¹³

Two other illustrations of Bridgeport sea captains are given in "A Centennial History" of 1876, by Major W. B. Hincks, in some sketches of men of the Revolution.

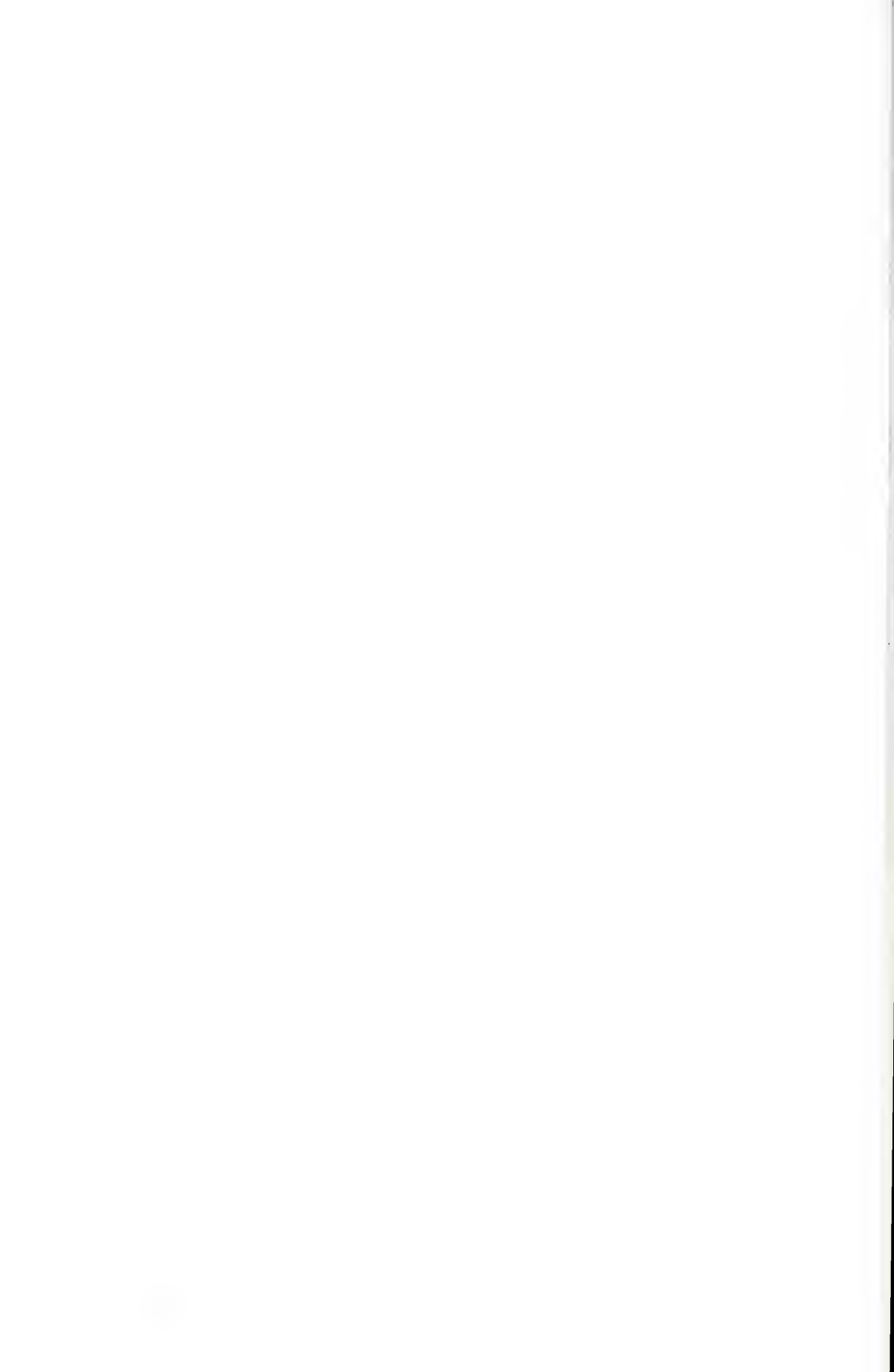
"Early in the war Capt. David Hawley, of Stratfield, sailed to the West Indies for a cargo of gunpowder, which, upon his return, was divided between the towns of Stratford and Fairfield, a part of it being stored for a time in Nichols' tavern on the old county road. In March, 1776, he sailed again from Stratford in command of a privateer sloop, but was captured, when four days out, by a British man of war, *Bellona*. Large inducements were offered him by his captors to change his allegiance and act as a pilot to the British fleet, but these were firmly declined. He was taken to Halifax, but after a captivity of only two weeks made his escape with eight companions in a small boat, and at length found his way back home. In August, 1776, he was commissioned by

¹³ See History of the Hubbell Family, 144.



1794-1854

Francis Thompson



the legislature to raise a naval detachment for service upon Lake Champlain, and a few months later he took part in the disastrous action fought upon this lake between the British and American flotillas. After this, Long Island Sound was his cruising ground, and besides capturing Judge Jones we find him in May, 1777, and again in August of the same year, bringing a number of prizes into Black Rock harbor. After the war he resided in Bridgeport until his decease in 1807. He built on the corner of Water and Gilbert streets the first brick house erected within the city limits."

"Capt. Samuel Smedley sailed upon the Atlantic as commander of the brig *Defense*, perhaps the most successful vessel in the Colonial Navy. He captured many prizes, among them the British ship *Cyrus*, mounting eighteen guns and laden with a cargo that sold for about £20,000, one of the most valuable captures made during the revolution. After the war Capt. Smedley was for many years collector of Customs for this district, residing and having his office at Fairfield."

Capt. Isaac Burroughs, son of Stephen Burroughs, born in Bridgeport or Newfield, Conn., in 1778, and died at his residence in Bridgeport, Conn., January 8, 1861, was also a sea captain. Like his father before him, he was extensively engaged in navigation and owned a large number of vessels, which plied between Boston, New York and nearly all the southern ports, besides visiting many of the islands of the sea. He was a large owner of real estate in this city, and a director in the old Bridgeport bank. He was a life-long Whig and Republican, and as such represented his town in the State Legislature. He was a warden for several years of St. John's Episcopal Church, and one of its most liberal supporters. He married Rebecca, daughter of Andrew Hurd, of Old Mill, Conn. Their children were six in number, all of whom are deceased. Catharine A. married A. A. Pettingill, an accomplished gentleman and scholar, of Bridgeport. She gave in her will the elegant building known as the Burroughs Block, to the Bridgeport Public Library for a perpetual library building.¹⁴

¹⁴ See Bridgeport Public Library and Reading Room.



CHAPTER IV.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.



EWFIELD village people, both Congregational and Episcopal, went to Stratfield, a distance of one mile or more, about twenty-five years, to church, but as soon as the borough was organized in 1800 movements began to bring these churches into the borough, where then were located the post office and stores.

The Episcopal people were the first to build a church edifice here.

St. John's Church, Bridgeport.

The first edifice built as a house of worship for this church in Stratfield was erected in the summer of 1748, as indicated by the following record :¹

"I have formerly mentioned a Church built at Stratfield, in which they are very urgent to have me officiate every third Sunday, because we have large congregations when I preach there. The people living in the town and westward are very much against it, because Mr. Caner used to keep steadily to the Church in town, but then there was neither Church nor Congregation at Stratfield."

Mr. Caner resigned his pastorate in Fairfield and removed to Boston in the year 1747, and Mr. Lamson was his successor as missionary pastor at Fairfield, and he says there was "neither Church nor congregation at Stratfield," under

¹ Church Documents of Connecticut, vol. i, page 246, letter of Joseph Lamson, dated Fairfield, Nov. 10, 1748.

Mr. Caner, and hence the interest in establishing a church in this locality must have taken form and the church been built after Mr. Lamson came and in the year 1748, and Mr. Lamson held services in it that year. It was called St. John's Church and was a frame building with a steeple, and stood on the corner of Church Lane (now Wood avenue, of Bridgeport). Among the contributors for its erection were Col. John Burr, John Holburton, Timothy Wheeler, Joseph Seeley, John Nichols, Richard Hall and Samuel Beardslee. For some years the Rev. Joseph Lamson officiated, dividing his labors so as to minister here and in other localities, and was succeeded by the Rev. John Sayre.

Tradition says Mr. Lamson was engaged to marry Abigail Rumsey, of Fairfield, that she went to Stratford to visit friends, was taken very ill, and being attended by her parents and Mr. Lamson in her illness, she directed just before her decease, that a string of gold beads which she wore should be taken from her neck and placed on his, which was done and he wore them as long as he lived. The following is the tombstone inscription memorial of the young lady: "Abigail Rumsey, Daughter of Mr. Benj^m & Mrs. Rebecka Rumsey of Fairfield, Who Died Octb^r 14, 1743, Aged 16 years & 7 months."²

Although there was neither church nor congregation at Stratfield, there were communicants of the Episcopal Church residing here while Mr. Caner preached at Fairfield, for the following vote is recorded in the Stratfield society's book: "December 24, 1746. Voted a tax or rate on all the polls and ratable estate of the Society, of nine pence on the pound to defray the ministerial charges in the society, Professed Churchmen exempted." This vote, however, to exempt the churchmen was rescinded at a society meeting the next February.

It is certain that some of these men who contributed to build this Episcopal Church were prominent persons in the Congregational society until the great stir made soon after Whitefield's visit to Stratford and Fairfield in October, 1740.

² See page 227 of this book.



The following record is conclusive: "At a lawful meeting of the Society of Stratfield held on 22 day of December, 1743, it was voted that Capt. John Burr, David Sherman, Jr., and Timothy Wheeler be a committee to order the prudentials of the society for the year ensuing." Col. John Burr was moderator of this same meeting, so that his position as a prominent man of the Congregational society at that date is also decided. It is indicated that Col. Burr and Timothy Wheeler united with the Episcopal Church in the year 1744, since in the annual meeting of the Stratfield society, December, 1744, neither of their names occurs.

John Beardslee, who has been supposed to have been a member of the Episcopal Church some years earlier, was moderator of the Stratfield society's meeting in October, 1743. Samuel Beardslee was not prominent in the Stratfield society; he conformed to the Episcopal Church, probably, with others in 1744, and after several years joined the Baptist Church.

It is therefore quite certain that in 1740 there were very few if any communicants of the Episcopal Church residing within the boundaries of the Stratfield society.

The records of this St. John's Church now in existence, begin with a copy of the summons of "those persons professors of the Episcopal Church, inhabitants of Stratfield Society, to appear at the Church in said Society, Thursday the ninth day of instant December, at two of the clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of forming themselves into one body Corporate, or Society, for to chuse Society officers for the well-ordering and governing the prudential affairs of said Episcopal Church as they in their wisdom shall judge meet and fitting." This document bears the date December 1, 1784. The first meeting was held on the day designated and after choosing the parish officers it was "voted to settle Mr. Philo Shelton in this Society." Mr. Shelton at that time was a candidate for orders, and continued to officiate as lay reader until the arrival of Bishop Seabury, who admitted him to the order of Deacons of Christ Church, Middletown, and to the order of Priesthood in Trinity Church, New Haven, in 1785. Aside from the fact that his rectorship was the first after the

organization, and the longest that the parish has known, he is also to be remembered as the first individual who received Episcopal ordination in this country, as appears from the inscription placed over his remains, which were interred in the Episcopal Church which was at Mill Plain, Fairfield, also under his charge. The increase of business and the population in the borough of Bridgeport, necessitated a change in the locality of the church, and accordingly in 1801 the second edifice was erected at the southeast corner of State and Broad streets in Bridgeport. Mr. Shelton's rectorship continued until Easter in 1824.

The following sketch of his life and labors is taken largely from the "Seabury Centenary of Connecticut," published in 1885.

Rev. Philo Shelton, son of Samuel and grandson of Daniel Shelton, was born in Ripton—now Huntington—May 7, 1754. He was graduated at Yale College in 1775, and officiated as lay reader in several places, principally at Fairfield, Stratfield and Weston, after 1779. While waiting for ordination he married, April 20, 1781, Lucy, daughter of Philip Nichols, Esq., of Stratford—now Bridgeport. In February, 1785, a formal arrangement was made that his services in each of the three places should be proportioned to the number of churchmen residing in them respectively, and until he should be in orders it was stipulated to pay him twenty shillings lawful money for each day that he officiated. Rev. Ashbel Baldwin, his nearest neighbor in parochial work, and most intimate friend and associate in efforts to build up the church in Connecticut, used to say that the hands of Bishop Seabury were first laid upon the head of Mr. Shelton on the 3d of August, 1785, so that his name really begins the long list of clergy who have received ordination in this country by Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church. In the Diocesan Convention, under an established rule of that body, he invariably outranked Mr. Baldwin, and so was frequently the presiding officer in the absence of the Bishop, which is another proof that he was his senior by ordination as well as in years.

After his admission to Holy Orders, according to his own statement, Mr. Shelton took full "pastoral charge of the cure of Fairfield, including Stratfield and Weston, dividing his time equally between the three churches, with a salary of one hundred pounds per annum from the congregations, and the use of what lands belonged to the cure." Five years passed away before the enterprise of building a new church in Fairfield was really begun, and then it was erected about a mile west of the site where the old one stood, and was only inclosed and made fit for occupancy at the time and not finished and consecrated until 1798.

Then the population was drifting from Stratfield toward the borough of Bridgeport, and in 1801 it was deemed advisable to demolish the old church and build a new one in a more central locality: and Mr. Shelton, seeing the wisdom and advantage of this movement, encouraged it.

This new church in the borough was so far completed that it was used in the beginning of Advent, 1801, and two years later "the ground floor was sold at public vendue for the purpose of building the pews and seats thereon, and finishing the church, and the money raised in the sale amounted to between six and seven hundred dollars." The building cost about thirty-five hundred dollars above this, and was met by voluntary contributions of the people. Mr. Shelton, in speaking of the whole work, said: "It has been conducted in harmony, with good prudence, strict economy, and a degree of elegance and taste which does honor to the committee and adds respectability to the place."

For nearly forty years the scene of his ministerial labors was undisturbed, and he dwelt among his people in quietness and confidence and had the satisfaction of seeing them attain to a high degree of worldly prosperity. The silent influence of a good life carried him along smoothly and left its gentle impress wherever he was known. "A faithful pastor, a guileless and godly man," is a part of the inscription upon the marble monument erected over his ashes in the Mountain Grove Cemetery at Bridgeport, a few years since, by his son William, and these words sum up very appropriately his ministerial and Christian character. While he confined him-



self closely to the duties of his cure, he shrank not from work put upon him by the diocese and was for twenty-four years a member of the standing committee and a firm supporter of ecclesiastical authority in seasons of trial and trouble. He was also several times chosen a deputy to the General Convention, and never failed to attend its sessions.

Mr. Shelton continued to serve in this parish until his resignation of the pastorate of St. John's Church, which took effect at Easter in 1824. After this he confined his labors regularly to the church in Fairfield, but did not long survive the change, for he died February 27, 1825, and was buried under the chancel of the old church in Mill Plain, Fairfield, where he had ministered so many years, and a marble tablet was provided by the congregation to mark his resting place, on which, among other things, were inscribed the date of his birth, graduation, admission to Holy Orders, and the words: "being the first clergyman Episcopally ordained in the United States."

The remains of Mr. Shelton now have a final resting-place with those of his wife and two of his daughters in Mountain Grove Cemetery. A monumental tablet in the wall of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, "bears an affectionate testimony to his Christian worth and ministerial fidelity." Bishop Brownell said of him: "For simplicity of character, amiable manners, unaffected piety, and a faithful devotion to the duties of the ministerial office, he has left an example by which all his surviving brethren may profit, and which few of them may hope to surpass."

His widow survived him thirteen years, being an intelligent and devout churchwoman, who, as it has been said, "left a name only to be loved and honored by her friends." Two of his sons entered the ministry. George Augustus Shelton, the younger, was a graduate of Yale College, and died rector of St. James's Church, Newtown, L. I., in 1863. The other son, William Shelton, D.D., succeeded his father for a time in Fairfield, and then went to Buffalo, where for more than half a century he was the distinguished rector of St. Paul's Church, the oldest parish in that city. Both died childless.



Rev. Henry R. Judah in 1824 succeeded the Rev. Philo Shelton in the pastorate of St. John's Church, and continued therein until the year 1833, when he was followed by the Rev. Dr. Gurdon S. Coit. In 1836 the third church edifice was built, located at the southeast corner of Broad and Cannon streets, and Dr. Coit served the parish until 1861, when he resigned.

Gurdon Saltonstall Coit, D.D., was born in New London, Conn., October 28, 1808, and was graduated at Yale College in 1828, and became rector of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, in October, 1833. In 1836, during his labors here, the third edifice of worship for this church was built on the corner of Broad and Cannon streets, a stone structure of dignified proportions and commodious capacity. It is still standing but occupied for other purposes, the congregation having removed to their new edifice on the corner of Park and Fairfield avenue.

Dr. Coit continued rector of this parish with much success until he accepted the chaplaincy of Colonel Berdan's regiment of sharp-shooters, September 26, 1861. After the war he became rector at Naugatuck and subsequently at West Haven. He died in Southport, Conn., Nov. 10, 1869.

In 1861 Dr. Coit was succeeded by the Rev. Junius M. Willey, whose brief rectorship was terminated by his untimely death on April 7, 1866. This is the only instance in the long history of the parish in which its members have been called to follow the remains of one who while yet their official head had been summoned from the labor of earth to the rest of the blessed.

Rev. Eaton W. Maxcy, D.D., became the pastor of St. John's Church at Whit Sunday, 1867, and continued in its service until his resignation took effect on Easter, 1885. During his labors here the fourth edifice of worship for this parish was erected, being located at the corner of Park and Fairfield avenues, which was occupied by the congregation the first time at Easter in 1875. It is one of the finest edifices in the city and has one of the most favorable locations. Dr. Maxcy resigned this parish after eighteen years of successful and



most constant labors, at Easter, 1885, and has since become the rector of a pleasant and prosperous church in the city of Troy, N. Y.

First Congregational Church of Bridgeport.

This was originally the Stratfield Church, the history of which until 1745 has been given in a previous part of this book. The Rev. Samuel Cooke, the pastor, died December 2, 1747, and his successor was Lyman Hall.

Mr. Lyman Hall was born in Wallingford, April 12, 1724, and graduated at Yale College in 1747. He studied theology with an uncle in Cheshire, and was ordained in Stratfield, September 20, 1749, but his pastorate was short, closing June 18, 1751. He then taught school in Fairfield, studied medicine and became a physician. He married, May 20, 1752, Abigail, the accomplished daughter of Thaddeus Barr. She died July 8, 1753, as seen by the inscription on her grave-stone.³

Mr. Hall was in Fairfield as late as 1757, but afterwards removed to the State of Georgia, and early in 1775 took a seat in the Continental Congress as a representative of that patriotic people. He was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and in 1783 was the first Governor of that State. He died October 19, 1790, leaving a widow but no children.⁴

³ "Here lies buried the Body of Mrs. Abigail Hall, wife of Lyman Hall M.A., Daughter of Thaddeus Burr, Esq., died July 8th, 1753, Aged 24 Years.

Modest, yet free, with innocence adorned ;
To please and win, by Art and Nature formed ;
Benevolent and wise, in virtue firm ;
Constant in Friendship, in Religion warm ;
A partner tender, unaffected, kind ;
A lovely Form, with a more lovely mind,—
The scene of Life tho' short sh' improved so well,
No charms in human forms could more excel ; -
Christ's Life her copy ; His pure law her Guide ;
Each part She acted, perfected, and dy'd."

⁴ Sermon by the Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, of Bridgeport, 1876.



Rev. Robert Ross,⁵ after an interval of two years and more, succeeded Mr. Hall in the pastorate of the Stratfield Congregational Church. He was the son of Irish parents, but a native of this country. He was born in 1726, graduated at Princeton in 1751, and ordained pastor here November 28, 1753, which position he filled with much efficiency and success more than forty-two years. He lived on the old stage road, a little west of Church Lane, in a house recently taken down. He was beyond doubt a remarkable man. He was six feet in height and well proportioned. His presence was imposing, and his ruffled shirt, wig, and cocked hat seemed peculiarly in keeping with it. His usual dress was a black suit with knee breeches, and white topped boots. He was distinguished for his classical attainments and was esteemed as a sound theologian; but he most strongly impressed himself upon the community through the warmth of his patriotism and the decisiveness of his political convictions. He became a man of influence on the patriotic side and proportionally obnoxious to the royalists. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War he preached on the text, "For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart," in a way long to be remembered. A company of soldiers, raised to join the invasion of Canada, in the fall of 1775, mustered in his door yard and was commended to God in a fervent prayer by him, before starting on their expedition. He was a steadfast promoter of education and published some school books. He married, first, Mrs. Sarah, widow of Samuel Hawley, December 18, 1753. She was Sarah Edwards before marriage to Mr. Hawley. She died October 10, 1772. Mr. Ross married, second, Eulilia, daughter of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Williams) Bartram, of Fairfield. She died December 9, 1785, in her 49th year, being much esteemed by the people. Mr. Ross married in 1786, Sarah, daughter of Rev. Jonathan Merrick, of North Branford. She died August 29, 1799, leaving a son, Merrick, who died September 11, 1799. By his first wife he had a son and daughter. The son, while a lad, was drowned in his father's well, but the daughter, Sarah, married Eliphalet Jennings, and her descendants are

⁵ Sermon by the Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, of Bridgeport, 1876.



still living. Another son, of the third marriage, survived his father only a few days.

Mr. Ross resigned his charge April 30, 1796, and died August 29, 1799, of a fever, and within twenty-four hours Mrs. Ross died of the same disease. They were buried in the same grave.

The long period covered by the pastorates of Cook, Hall, and Ross—over eighty years—saw many changes in the community at Stratfield. The inhabitants were no longer solely farmers and stock growers, but had developed, before the middle of the century, in spite of all discouragements, a coasting trade of quite honorable proportions, and a race of mariners had been bred to the ocean. Mechanics and tradesmen, in a new form, had found means for living in Stratfield, and thus the simple uniformity of the earlier period passed away. Political events, too, brought about changes. The French and Indian wars introduced no foeman within the borders of Connecticut, but her sons did yeoman service in the struggles of sister colonies. The Revolution, as is well known, laid heavy burdens upon the Connecticut coast, and the long train of evils which accompanied and followed it went far toward ruining every interest of society. The last ten or twenty years of Mr. Ross's ministry were, for many reasons, times of trial. The diseases, vices, sufferings, losses, universal insolvency, which came with or were entailed by the war, made darker days than had ever been seen before. Good morals were forsaken and godliness decayed to a disastrous extent. The difficulties, depressions and straits of the church during this time must have tasked even so ardent and zealous a man as Mr. Ross. As the process of recuperation slowly went on, another change in the community worked important results. The little cluster of houses and stores which acquired the name of Newfield, on the shore of the harbor and in the vicinity of the present intersection of State and Main streets, began to increase in importance, and this was the nucleus of the future town and city of Bridgeport, in which the individuality of Stratfield was eventually to be lost.



Rev. Samuel Blatchford was the successor of Mr. Ross in the pastorate of the Stratfield Church. He was the son of Henry and Mary Blatchford, and born in Devonport, Devonshire, England, in the year 1767. His father's family sympathised with the American cause during the Revolution, and he was often employed to convey means of relief to American prisoners of war in the Mill prison. His interest in these objects of his friends' bounty led him to an early purpose to visit this country. He was placed at a boarding school at Willington, in Somersetshire, and afterwards at Homerton College, near London. After completing his studies he was employed as assistant minister, and in November, 1789, he was ordained pastor at Kingsbridge, near Dartmouth. He married, in March, 1788, Alicia, daughter of Thomas Windeatt, Esq., of Bridgetown, Totwas, a lady admirably fitted for her station, and spared to him to the end of his life. In 1791 Mr. Blatchford removed to Topsham, near Exeter, and thence, in 1795, he emigrated to America, according to his long cherished purpose, and arrived in New York August 1st of that year. He preached first in Bedford, N. Y.; then for a year at Greenfield Hill, succeeding there President Dwight.

In February, 1797, he was invited to preach in the Stratfield church for six months, with the view of a settlement, which he afterwards accepted, and he was installed November 22 of the same year. His salary being inadequate, he added to it by teaching an academy for boys. He lived in a house now numbered 644 Main street, and his academy was just below, on land now owned by Thomas Calef. He labored here until March 20, 1804, when he resigned to accept a call to Lansingburgh, N. Y., where he continued until his death, March 17, 1828. He was honored with the degree of D.D. by Williams College in 1808. He had seventeen children, of whom ten survived him. While here he had not developed his best powers, for, being unfamiliar with American life, scantily supported, burdened with work and care in his double duties, he could not do justice to himself. But he became an able, prominent man. As a preacher he was instructive in matter, unaffected and impressive in manner.



He was well read in theology, and decided in his convictions. He possessed generous sympathies and was interested in all enterprises of beneficence, especially in the education of young men. His labors here were of great service to the church, and only too soon terminated. The church at his coming was low as to prosperity, but he gave it a rising impulse. A revival in 1800 added a number of persons to the membership, and in 1803 a movement to build a new house of worship was successfully inaugurated. He died December 2, 1846.

A story is told of Mr. Blatchford's ready and appropriate use of language in rendering thanks at the table of William Worden. Mr. Worden had been to short beach and just returned with some fine clams, which Mrs. Worden had hastily cooked, as Mr. Blatchford happened to call. A very plain table was set with bread, butter, milk, tea and the clams, and Mr. Blatchford was invited to share the meal and ask a blessing, which proposition he accepted, and in giving thanks said: "O Lord, thou hast cast our lines in pleasant places and given us a goodly heritage. Thou feedest us with the finest of the wheat and givest us the milk of kine. Thou causest us to suck the abundance of the sea and treasures hid in the sand."

The removal of the Congregational place of worship was more difficult than that of the Episcopal. The movement originated in the borough and was wholly voluntary, and therefore the records of the inception do not appear on the books of the society.

The building shown in the accompanying cut as the First Congregational Church was erected and inclosed during the year 1803. On June 11, 1804, the society voted to agree to hold the meetings for public worship half the time in Bridgeport, when a house suitable for that purpose shall, without expense to the society, be so far completed as to accommodate such meetings. Ayes, 32; nays, 19.

A meeting of the society was warned and held June 20, 1808, in the new meeting house, and it was voted to hold public worship there two-thirds of the time, and during this year the change was made entire.





METHODIST.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL.

ST. JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL.

SECOND

CONGREGATIONAL.

A VIEW OF THE CHURCHES OF BRIDGEPORT IN 1835, LOOKING FROM THE SOUTH.

A list of pew holders in the old church at this time, not including pew owners, is recorded, namely: Josiah Lacey, Dea. John P. Austin, William DeForest, Lambert Lockwood, Lewis Sturges, Silas Sherman, Ezra Gregory, Thomas Woodward, Simon Backus, Benjamin Wheeler, Stephen Burroughs, Jr., Wilson Hawley, Samuel Hawley, Jr., Elijah Burr, Stephen Hull, Abijah Morehouse, William Benedict, Wid. Mary Sherman, Salmon Hubbell, Robert Southward, David Sterling, Thomas Gouge, Jesse Seeley, Henry May, Abijah Sherman, Samuel Wordin, Levi Silliman, Barzillai Benjamin, Anson Beardsley, Samuel Burr.

In 1830 a division occurred in this church and thirty-nine men and seventy-eight women were dismissed at their own request, to form a second Congregational church, the old church giving them one-half of the church property and funds, and also contributing two thousand dollars toward the erection of a church edifice. This new edifice, when built, being so much of an improvement in such structures, seems to have stimulated enterprise, for the Episcopal Church was enlarged and improved, and the First Congregational



people also rebuilt their steeple in an improved form, and reconstructed the pulpit and galleries.*

This building was occupied until 1850, when it gave place to the present edifice. The former was purchased for the use of Christ Church and removed upon John street, at the site of the present works of Nichols, Peck and Co., where it was accidentally destroyed by fire in 1851.

Rev. Elijah Waterman was the successor of Mr. Blatchford. He was the son of Nehemiah and Susannah (Isham) Waterman, and born in Bozra, Conn., November 28, 1769; was graduated at Yale College in 1791, and engaged in teaching, intending to study law, but changed his purpose, and in 1792 became a student under Dr. Dwight at Green-

* A nearly complete list of pew holders in the First Congregational Church in 1835.

Officers of the Church: Rev. John Blatchford, pastor; Isaac Sherman, David Sherwood, and Sylvanus Sterling, deacons; Isaac Sherman, Hanford Lyon, and Joseph Mott, society's committee; Daniel Sterling, treasurer; N. S. Wordin, clerk; Nathaniel Wade, collector; Sylvanus Sterling, salesman.

Pew holders.

Daniel Thatcher,	Alanson Caswell,	Nichols Beardsley,
Alanson Hamlin,	Coley E. Betts,	Lemuel Coleman,
Alexander Hubbell,	James Betts,	William R. Bunnell,
Daniel Sterling,	Daniel Curtis,	Thomas Bartram,
Hanford Lyon,	Henry N. French,	Ira Peck,
Thomas C. Wordin,	Gurdon Hawley,	Joseph C. Lewis,
Samuel Niles,	Abijah Beardsley,	David Hubbell, 3d,
Charles B. Hubbell,	Wyllys Stillman,	Anson Hawley,
Doct. James E. Beach,	Alexander Black,	David Sherwood,
Sylvanus Sterling,	Nathaniel Humiston,	Robert Milne,
David Sterling,	Cyrus Botsford,	Wheeler French, Jr.,
Joel Thorp,	Titus C. Mather,	Judson Bray,
Philo C. Wheeler,	Joseph Mott,	Sturges and Smith,
John M. Thompson,	Isaac M. Conklin,	Isaac E. Beach,
Daniel Fayerweather,	Capt. E. Wicks,	Stephen Nichols,
Charles Hawley,	David Wheeler,	George Kippen,
Gideon Thompson,	David Victory Seeley,	Samuel Porter,
Benjamin Wheeler,	Joseph Knapp,	Elijah C. Spinning,
Isaac Sherman,	George Wade,	Samuel Wordin,
Nathaniel Wade,	Ezra Gregory,	Louisa Bartlett,
Legrand Sterling,	Joseph P. Sturges,	Eleazer Edgerton.
Levi Wordin,		

field Hill, and afterwards with Dr. Jonathan Edwards at New Haven. In April, 1794, he went to Windham to preach as a candidate, and the next October was ordained pastor there and served that church ten years. He married, November 18, 1795, Lucy, daughter of Shubael Abbe, of Windham. She was born May 21, 1778, and died at Bridgeport, Sunday morning, March 17, 1822. He married, second, Lucy Talcott, of Springfield, Mass., in October, 1823, who survived him.

Mr. Waterman's ministry was terminated at Windham in 1804, and on the first day of January, 1806, he was installed pastor of the church in Stratfield, where he continued until his death. He built and resided in the house on Golden Hill street now owned by the heirs of Hanford Lyon. In person he was of medium height, well built, and had the appearance of great physical strength, and possessed a fine presence. He was active in his habits, possessed a high spirit and a keen sense of favors and injuries, and was liable to sudden outbreaks of temper, yet placable. He was a vigorous thinker and his manner of delivery was animated and effective. He was a moderate Calvinist, leaning strongly to the New School side of theology in his day, but being a man of strong common sense and good will he kept his hold on men of both sides, and averted any divisions in his congregation. In 1807 his new church edifice was completed, built by subscription on the site at present occupied by the same society. At first it was occupied two Sundays out of three, but after a short time every Sunday. The borough of Bridgeport was incorporated in 1800, with two hundred and fifty inhabitants, and by a rapid growth it gradually absorbed the dwellers of the more ancient settlement. In 1821 the town of Bridgeport was erected and the parish of Stratfield, practically, ceased to exist. The church soon felt the effects of Mr. Waterman's invigorating administration. August 6, 1806, a confession of faith, a covenant, and standing rules were adopted, and from that time the half-way covenant was discontinued. In 1814 a Sunday-school was organized by Platt Benedict, which was the first in the town, and was ultimately taken under the care of the church.

In April, 1821, the church purchased the land where the chapel stands for a "conference room and academy," and a building was erected to answer both purposes. Mr. Waterman instructed a number of students in theology and proposed to establish a theological school, but did not succeed in this purpose.

When Mr. Waterman was installed the church consisted of forty-seven members. To these there was a steady growth, until in 1815, over one hundred had been added, mostly on profession of faith. Then came a powerful revival which resulted in eighty-four additions. Four more years of quiet growth followed, and then another revival season came, and seventy-seven more were added to the membership. The whole number added during his ministry was about three hundred and sixty.

In 1825, while Mr. Waterman was on a visit to Springfield, Mass., he was taken ill of typhus fever and died there October 11th of that year. The church sent a committee to bring hither his remains for interment, and thus ended a useful life and a most successful ministry.⁷

In the settlement of a successor a difference of views arose which ripened a few years later. The candidates were a son of the former pastor, the Rev. Thomas T. Waterman, and the Rev. Franklin Vail. Mr. Vail was finally chosen, but he had a short pastorate.

Thomas Tileston Waterman,⁸ son of the Rev. Elijah Waterman was born in Windham, Conn., September 24, 1801, and four years after removed with his parents to Stratfield, and was prepared for college by his father and at Hartford, and was graduated at Yale in the class of 1822. He studied theology with his father, and was ordained pastor of the Richmond street Congregational Church, of Providence, R. I., December 13, 1826. In 1837 he became pastor of the Fifth Presbyterian Church, of Philadelphia, where he continued until 1843, when he returned to Providence, and was installed pastor of the Fourth Congregational Church, which

⁷ Sermon of the Rev. C. Ray Palmer.

⁸ Fairfield County History, 166.



soon after became known as the Free Evangelical Church. After leaving this church he held pastorates in the Second Presbyterian Church at Galena, Ill., and in the Congregational Churches at Winona, Minn., Danielsonville, Conn., Spencer, Mass., and Monroe, Conn.

On December 11, 1827, Mr. Waterman married Delia, daughter of Dann Storrs, a native of Mansfield, Conn., and they had children: Thomas S., Alfred T., George I., Lucy M., and Edwin S. Waterman. The Rev. Thomas T. Waterman died in Stratford, Conn., August 7, 1873, aged 71 years.

Rev. Franklin Y. Vail was born at East Hampton, L. I., in 1797, entered Yale College, but did not graduate, studied theology in New York, and was ordained here October 4, 1826. Neither his health nor his tastes fitted him for a pastorate as well as for what became his life-work afterwards—the raising of funds for beneficent enterprises. He was for many years the general agent of the American Tract Society, and was greatly valued by that institution. He afterwards was the principal agent in founding and endowing Lane Theological Seminary at Cincinnati, Ohio, and an institution for female education in that vicinity. He died in that city June 23, 1868, aged seventy-one years. His ministry at Bridgeport ended July 8, 1828, and was notable for a revival season in the winter of 1827 and 8, after which thirty were added to the church.

In the settlement of a successor to Mr. Vail a decided difference of theological sentiment became quite prominent. Mr. John Blatchford, as a candidate in 1828, was understood to be decidedly a new school man, and the more conservative section of the church were opposed to calling him. In January, 1829, the church proved to be nearly equally divided, and the call, issued by a majority of only four, Mr. Blatchford declined. It proved impossible to harmonize the conflicting elements, and, at length, December 28, 1829, a division of the church was resolved upon. On January 24, 1830, three deacons, thirty-six other men, and seventy-eight women were dismissed from the church, at their own request, to form a second church, the old church giving them one-half of the



church property and funds, and also contributed two thousand dollars toward the erection of a church edifice. One week later, January 31, 1830, those abiding in the old church, being one hundred and seventy in number, renewed the call to Mr. Blatchford, which he promptly accepted, and served them until July 26, 1836, when he was dismissed.

Rev. John Blatchford, son of the Rev. Samuel Blatchford, D.D., a former pastor of this church, was born May 24, 1799, in Stratfield, graduated at Union College in 1820, studied theology in Princeton Theological Seminary, and was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Pittstown, N. Y., in August, 1823. He was installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, in April, 1825, and on February 10, 1830, he was installed here. After being dismissed as above, he removed to the West, resided successively at Jacksonville and Chicago, Ill., and at Wheeling, Va. From 1841 to 1844 he was connected with Marion College, the latter part of the period as president. He removed thence to West Ely, Mo., and thence to Quincy Ill., where he died in April, 1855. He received the degree of D.D. from Marion College in 1841. He possessed a bright, ready mind, a genial spirit and pleasing manners. His general appearance was attractive and he was almost any where an acceptable minister. A very interesting revival occurred under his labors here in Bridgeport in 1831, which added eighty-six to the church membership, and the church parted with him reluctantly.

Rev. John Woodbridge followed Mr. Blatchford, being installed here June 14, 1837, and continued about seventeen months and was in 1839 installed over the North Church in New Hartford, Conn.

Rev. John H. Hunter succeeded Dr. Woodbridge, being installed here February 27, 1839, and continued until November 13, 1845. He soon after went west to look after lands left him by his father and was not again settled in the ministry. This church grew under his ministry, especially in 1844, when twenty-five members were added at one time.

Rev. Benjamin St. John Page was installed pastor here February 10, 1847, and continued until August 30, 1853. During his pastorate here the present house of worship was erected. The old house was removed northward a short distance and occupied while building the new one, and was used by this society for public worship the last time, April 7, 1850. It was purchased for the use of Christ Church, removed to a new site on John street west of Broad, and in 1851 was accidentally destroyed by fire.⁹

The new house was built and fitted up at a cost of about \$25,000—raised by subscription—the first paper bearing the date June 1, 1848. About two-thirds of the amount was in stock, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. Most of this—both principal and interest—was subsequently given to the society. Thomas Dixon, of Stamford, Conn., was the architect. The builders were, William A. Dowd, mason, and Beardsley and Daskam, carpenters and joiners. The building committee consisted of Freeman C. Bassett, Ira Sherman, Hanford Lyon and Sherman Hartwell. The two first named were the active members of the committee.

This edifice was dedicated on Thursday, April 11, 1850, and on the Sunday following was opened for public worship, and is well represented by the accompanying engraving—in which the steeple of the former house, on its temporary site, also appears. Beyond that is faintly seen the steeple of the former St. John's Church.

In 1882 a thorough renovation and some improvement in the interior of this edifice was deemed necessary for the comfort and prosperity of the church and society. Accordingly the side galleries were removed, the walls, ceiling and ornamental plastering repaired, and all suitably decorated. Elegant stained-glass, memorial windows were furnished, also two new furnaces, new carpets and cushions, at a total cost of six thousand dollars.

⁹ The history of the First Congregational Church and its ministers thus far given has been taken largely from the manuscript of the Rev. C. R. Palmer, cheerfully granted for this purpose, it having been obtained by him during several years' research and inquiry.





THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ERECTED IN 1843.



The following is a list of the memorial windows:

Rev. Charles Chauncey, pastor, 1695-1714.

Rev. Elijah Waterman, pastor, 1806-1825.

Rev. Samuel Blatchford, D.D., pastor, 1797-1804. }

Rev. John Blatchford, D.D., pastor, 1830-1836. }

Hanford Lyon.

Rev. Henry Jones.

Ira Sherman. }

Sherman Hartwell. }

James C. Loomis. }

Sophia Todd Hartwell. }

Dea. Sylvanus Sterling. }

Frederick W. Parrott. }

Thomas C. Wordin. }

Henry R. Parrott. }

Dea. Isaac Sherman. }

Vestibule with historical dates.

Dea. Rowland B. Lacey. }

A List of the Deacons of the old Stratfield Church of Christ, which is now the First Congregational Church, of Bridgeport:

David Sherman, chosen in 1695, and died in 1753, aged 88 years.

Thomas Hawley, chosen in 1712, and died in 1722, aged 44 years.

Lemuel Sherwood, chosen in 1722, and died in 1732.

Joseph Booth, chosen in 1733, and died in 1763, aged 74 years.

Richard Hubbell, son of one of the first members of this church, was chosen in 1738, and died in 1788, aged 92 years. He gave to the church in 1738 the silver tankard now in use in the communion service, on which his name is engraved.

William Bennett, chosen in 1754, removed to North Fairfield—now Easton—in 1756, and died in 1788, aged 79 years.

Henry Rowland, chosen in 1756, and died in 1775.

Abel Seeley, chosen in 1775, served until 1779, and died in 1810, aged 84 years.

Elijah Hawley, chosen in 1776, removed from the town in 1790, and died in Ohio in 1825, aged 81 years.

Seth Seeley, chosen in 1779, served until 1806, when, at his own request, he was excused from further service, and died in 1817, aged 79 years.

Seth Sherman, chosen in 1806, died in 1807.

Doct. James E. Beach, chosen October 10, 1806, and died in 1838, aged 76 years. He gave to the church the silver flagon now in use in the communion service.

John P. Austin, chosen October 21, 1807, served until 1813, when he removed from the place.

William DeForest, chosen in 1813, was dismissed at his own request with others to form the Second Congregational Church.

Stephen Hawley, chosen August 31, 1821, and dismissed at his own request for the same purpose as Dea. DeForest.

Josiah B. Baldwin, chosen in 1821, dismissed the same, and for the same purpose as Dea. DeForest.

Isaac Sherman, chosen in 1830, and died November 23, 1863, aged 75 years.

Sylvanus Sterling, chosen November 4, 1831, and died in 1848, aged 61 years.

David Sherwood, chosen November 4, 1831, and died in 1873, aged 94 years.

Samuel Beach, M.D., chosen May 4, 1849, and died May 6, 1853, a victim of the railroad accident at Norwalk bridge.

Rowland B. Lacey, chosen August 30, 1850, and is still serving.

John W. Hincks, chosen Sept. 1, 1854, died Feb. 6, 1875.

Rev. Henry Jones, chosen Feb. 15, 1858, died Nov. 9, 1878.

Elbert E. Hubbell, chosen February 25, 1858.

Rev. Guy B. Day, chosen April 1, 1874, and is still serving.

Samuel R. Wilmot, chosen March, 1875, and is still serving.

William B. Hincks, chosen March, 1875, and is still serving.

The communion service of the First Congregational Church is of solid silver, and is an aggregation of gifts dating from an early period in the history of the church, consisting of various antique patterns with inscriptions, highly valued as memorials of those who have passed on to the communion of a higher sphere. The list contains the following:

One silver tankard, the gift of Lieut. Richard Hubbell to the Church of Christ in Stratfield, A. D. 1738.

One silver flagon, presented to the First Congregational Church in Bridgeport by Doct. James E. Beach, in 1830.

One silver cup, a gift to the Church of Christ in Stratfield by Matthew Sherwood, January, 1713.

One silver cup, presented by Mr. John Edwards in 1746.

One silver cup, presented to the First Congregational Church of Bridgeport, by Salmon Hubbell, in 1829.





One silver cup, presented by Isaac Sherman in 1836.
One silver cup, presented by Isaac E. Beach in 1839.
One silver cup, presented by Mrs. Sylvanus Sterling in 1839.
One silver cup, presented by Ira Sherman in 1839.
One silver cup, presented by Mrs. Ellen Porter in 1843.
Two silver cups, not inscribed.
Three silver goblets, presented by Mrs. Ira Sherman in 1868.
One silver plate, presented by the Rev. Henry Jones in 1867.
One silver plate, presented by Hanford Lyon in 1867.
One silver plate, presented by Dea. John W. Hincks in 1867.
One silver plate, presented by Dea. Rowland B. Lacey in 1867.

Rev. Joseph H. Towne became pastor of this, the First Congregational Church of Bridgeport, June 13, 1854, and continued here until June 29, 1858. He was pastor in Salem Street Church in Boston about 1838, when he was joined by a portion of his church in founding the Leyden Chapel, located in the same vicinity. This enterprise embraced some excellent men, but was not successful. They inaugurated a new departure in the order of worship, which was much commented upon at the time. It consisted in the introduction of responsive reading and chants, an order adopted since that day by many Congregational churches in New England. Mr. Towne was an able and very interesting preacher. During his pastorate the congregations were large, and in 1857 and 8 there occurred one of the most extensive revivals this church has ever known.

Rev. Matson Mier Smith, successor to Mr. Towne, was born in Harlem—now New York—April 4, 1826, was graduated at Columbia College, N. Y., in 1843, and at the Union Theological Seminary, N. Y., in 1847. He was ordained by the Presbytery of Geneva, October 23, 1849, as pastor of the church in Ovid, N. Y., and in the same year, November 14, he married Mary Stuart, daughter of Norman White, Esq., of New York City, where she was born. He resigned his charge in Ovid March 21, 1851, to accept a call to the Harvard Church, Brookline, Mass., where he was installed June 5, 1851. There he labored until he was dismissed November 23, 1858, to accept a call to this church,

where he was installed January 5, 1859, and dismissed June 6, 1865. On March 6, 1866, he was ordained deacon in the Protestant Episcopal Church by Bishop Eastburn, at Boston, Mass.

Rev. George Richards, a native of New London, was graduated at Yale College in 1840, associate pastor for a time in Summer street in Boston, after that was pastor in Litchfield, Conn., from which place he came to this church and was installed January 3, 1866. He was dismissed August 24, 1870, and died October 20, 1870.

Rev. Charles Ray Palmer was born in New Haven, May 2, 1834, and was the son of the Rev. Ray Palmer, D.D., and Ann Maria, the daughter of Marmaduke Waud, Esq., of New York City. His father with his family at the time occupied the school building on the lower green as a Young Ladies' Institute. In the autumn of that year he removed eastward, and in May, 1835, to Bath, Maine, where he became pastor and continued fifteen and a half years. Charles R. Palmer's education commenced in the academy at Bath, and in September, 1849, he entered Billings Academy at Andover, Mass., in the middle class, where he was graduated in 1851, and entered Yale College. He was graduated at Yale in 1855, and went to Mississippi as a private tutor for a year in the family of John Murdock, Esq., a planter. In the autumn of 1856 he entered the Andover Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1859. On August 29, 1860, he was ordained pastor of the Tabernacle Church of Salem, Mass., where he labored nearly twelve years. In 1865 he spent seven months in Europe. On February 10, 1869, he married Mary Chapin, eldest daughter of A. S. Barnes, Esq., of Brooklyn, N. Y. She was born in Philadelphia, Pa., but in her infancy her parents removed to Brooklyn, where she was educated.

On August 15, 1872, Mr. Palmer commenced his pastoral labors here, and on the 11th of the next September was installed pastor of this church and society. In 1875 his health failed to such a degree that he signified his willingness to resign his pastorate, but from which he was dissuaded. He went to Europe, spent five months there, returned and the next March resumed his labors.

In 1880 he again went to Europe for rest and the benefit of his health, which has become fully established, and his labors as preacher and pastor of the First Congregational Church at the present time are highly appreciated and cordially accepted.

The Second Congregational Church of Bridgeport has been earnestly pursuing the object for which it was organized, fifty-six years; has had good success and attained a strong position in the community.

On the 18th of March, 1880, it held its semi-centennial anniversary, at which time a paper, prepared by the standing committee, was read, in connection with other public addresses, from which the following history of the church is taken, mostly in the words of the committee, since better could not easily be produced:¹⁰

"This church was organized January 28, 1830, by one hundred and seventeen persons"—thirty-nine men and seventy-eight women—who had been dismissed for the purpose

¹⁰ This sketch of the Second Congregational Church was prepared by Edmund S. Hawley, upon the request of the committee.

¹¹ The following is a list of pew holders in the Second Congregational Church in 1835:

Seth B. Jones,	Sherwood Sterling,	John Brooks, Jr.,
William B. Dyer,	George Sterling,	James Jennings,
Burr Knapp,	Wilson Hawley,	Nathan Baldwin,
Josiah Hubbell,	William DeForest,	Samuel Peet,
Victory Curtis,	Lockwood DeForest,	Josiah S. Fayerweather,
Joseph Wood,	Bronson Hawley,	Josiah B. Hall,
Fitch Wheeler,	Charles B. Middlebrook,	William B. Nash,
Jesse Sterling,	Edward Burroughs,	Charles Sherman,
Charles DeForest,	Harry Judson,	George Wheeler,
Munson Hawley,	Josiah B. Baldwin,	Daniel B. Oviatt,
Abijah Hawley,	Nichols Northrop,	D. Mallory,
David Perry,	Ransom C. Canfield,	Zenas R. Moody,
Stephen Hawley,	Benjamin DeForest,	Benjamin Pilgrim,
Edwin B. Gregory,	Mrs. Talman Perry,	Nathan Shepard,
R. Thorborne,	Edwin Porter,	Capt. E. Doane,
Rowell Lewis,	James Robinson,	E. D. Bull,
Mrs. Wm. Burr,	E. C. Warren,	John Cogswell,
David Hubbell,	Bradley Gould,	William Allis.
Elliot Morris,	Samuel Morse,	

from the Stratfield—now First Congregational—Church of this city; they being recognized as such the same day by a council of ministers convened to assist in its organization; and after entering into church covenant, William DeForest, Stephen Hawley and Josiah B. Baldwin were chosen deacons. Religious services were temporarily held in the high school house on State street, while measures were at once taken for the erection of a house of worship. A lot on the corner of Broad and Gilbert streets, where the church now stands, was purchased, and its first edifice, built of wood, was erected that year. It cost about \$5,000, besides the foundation and the finishing of the basement, which was done mainly by the members of the church, some furnishing materials, many working with their hands, and all doing something to forward the work; the ladies, as well, taking an active interest in everything connected with the prosperity of the church. The house was soon completed, and on November 30, 1830, it was dedicated to the worship of God, at which time the church numbered one hundred and twenty-eight members. At a meeting of the church held August 28, 1830, the Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D., was unanimously invited to become its pastor, which call was accepted and he was installed December 1, 1830, Dr. Woods, of Andover, preaching the sermon.

“During Dr. Hewit’s ministry of nearly twenty-three years, he had the confidence and respect of his church and the whole community. It was his custom to preach three times on the Sabbath, and lecture every Thursday evening. He was a power in the church and in the world, and it is our pleasure to bear testimony to his rare endowments and many virtues, and to render our humble tribute to his memory.

“In the summer of 1831 a friend of the cause of temperance offered to pay Dr. Hewit’s expenses if he would go to England and present the cause of temperance in that country. To this the church assented, and he sailed at the short notice of four days. During his absence of nearly six months the Rev. Mr. Hermance supplied the pulpit. Protracted meetings were held, and for a considerable time prayer meetings were held in the basement of the old church in the morning



SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ERECTED IN 1860 AND 61.

at sunrise. In these much interest was taken and as a result forty-seven were added to this church, and a large number to the First Church.

“Dr. Hewit was an eloquent man, mighty in the Scriptures, and his warnings and denunciations against intemperance and moderate drinking, his bold and heroic rebuke of fashionable vice and immorality, at home and abroad, made a deep impression on the public mind. During the latter part of his ministry the old church edifice was altered, enlarged and repaired, at considerable expense. He continued pastor until September 21, 1853, when he was dismissed, and on October 9, seventy-eight members were, at their own request, dismissed to organize a Presbyterian church, of which Dr. Hewit became pastor. The results of Dr. Hewit's ministry are here presented as written by himself on the records of the church. ‘At my installation, December 1, 1830, there were 128 members in the church. Of these 52 remain. There have been added by profession, 153; by letter, 220. Total, 373. Of these there remain 238. There are on record 131 infant baptisms. One hundred church members have departed this life. One hundred and thirty marriages have been solemnized by me. The amount taken up for charitable objects, also by legacies, subscriptions, etc., is at least \$24,000, five thousand of which is a legacy of the late Alfred Bishop to the American Bible Society, and one thousand a recent donation by his widow to found a permanent scholarship in the Literary and Theological Institute at East Windsor.’

“The second pastor, the Rev. Asahel L. Brooks, was installed January 25, 1854, and continued thus a little over two years, he being dismissed March 11, 1856, during which time there was a gain of 37 members. His removal to another field of labor was much regretted by the church and society. He died recently at the residence of his son in New Jersey.

“The Rev. Benjamin L. Swan succeeded Mr. Brooks as acting pastor, and his ministry of two and a half years was very acceptable to the church and congregation. He left the church with twenty-nine members more than when he began his labors with it.

"The fourth pastor, the Rev. Alexander R. Thompson, entered upon his labors March 1, 1859, and continued here for three years. In the summer of 1860 two mission Sunday schools were established, through the instrumentality of Mr. Thompson, one in East Bridgeport in the old carriage factory on William street, which proved very successful and which, it is believed, resulted finally in the present large Congregational Church of East Bridgeport. The other school was among the colored children in the lower part of the city, formerly called "Liberia." This was successfully sustained some time.

"In the autumn of 1860 the old church was removed to a vacant lot on the opposite side of the street and the foundation for the present edifice was laid. Notwithstanding the calamities of the civil war, which soon began, this work went forward and the new church was dedicated January 20, 1862, the sermon being preached by the Rev. R. S. Storrs, D.D., of Brooklyn. Mr. Thompson's able and earnest preaching filled the old and the new house with attentive listeners, and his many labors of love in the church and in the whole community are still fresh in the recollections of the people.¹²

"Mr. Thompson was succeeded by the Rev. Francis Lobdell, who was installed in April, 1863, and dismissed February, 1865. During his labors, in February, 1864, the Rev. E. P. Hammond held services with this church and fifty-three members were added. The same year a heavy debt on the church and society was removed by the generous subscriptions received.

"In the spring the Rev. Daniel Lord was invited to become, and in May, 1865, was installed pastor of this church and society. He resigned in April, 1869, to accept the pastorate of a church in Chicago. He left the church in a prosperous condition.

"The next pastor, the Rev. Edwin Johnson, was installed in November, 1870. His labors were blessed of God, and many were added to the church. He resigned his charge in

¹² Some special account of a number of men who went from this church in the civil war will be found in the war record of Bridgeport.

November, 1876, after a faithful and successful ministry of six years.

"The present pastor, the Rev. R. G. S. McNeille, was installed December 4, 1877, the Rev. Dr. Noble, of New Haven, preaching the sermon. The following summer our pastor was absent about four months on a tour in Europe, and on his return gave two courses of very interesting lectures on Northern Italy, the proceeds being for the ladies' sewing society."

In the summer of 1879 this church edifice was repaired, with considerable alterations and adornments, at a cost of over seven thousand dollars. Alterations and improvements, also, in the chapel were made at the expense and under the direction of the ladies of the church, at a cost of over three thousand dollars.

The present pastor of the church is the Rev. R. G. S. McNeille, and the following have been or are deacons: William DeForest, chosen in 1830, died in 1853; Stephen Hawley, chosen in 1830, resigned in 1842; Josiah B. Baldwin, chosen in 1830, resigned in 1841; Sherwood Sterling, chosen in 1833, died in 1869; Harvey Higby, chosen in 1841, died May 29, 1875; George Sterling, chosen in 1847, died September 8, 1871; Thomas Lord, chosen in 1867, resigned November 4, 1870; Edward Sterling, chosen in 1867; Edward W. Marsh, chosen in 1867; William E. Brown, chosen in 1867, died November 15, 1873; Joel Blakeslee, chosen —; Thomas Calef, chosen November 5, 1875; Leonard Wood, chosen February 28, 1883, died February 6, 1886. Superintendent of the Sunday school, Edward W. Marsh; assistant superintendents, A. H. Warner, Miss Sarah L. Baldwin.

The First Presbyterian Church of Bridgeport was constituted October 16, 1853, at which time eighty-two persons, who had previously obtained letters of dismissal from the Second Congregational Church, entered into covenant and resolved to connect themselves with the Presbytery of New York. Dr. Hewit, who had received, at his request, letters of dismissal from the consociation, was admitted to the Presbytery of New York, October 19, 1853, and the Presby-



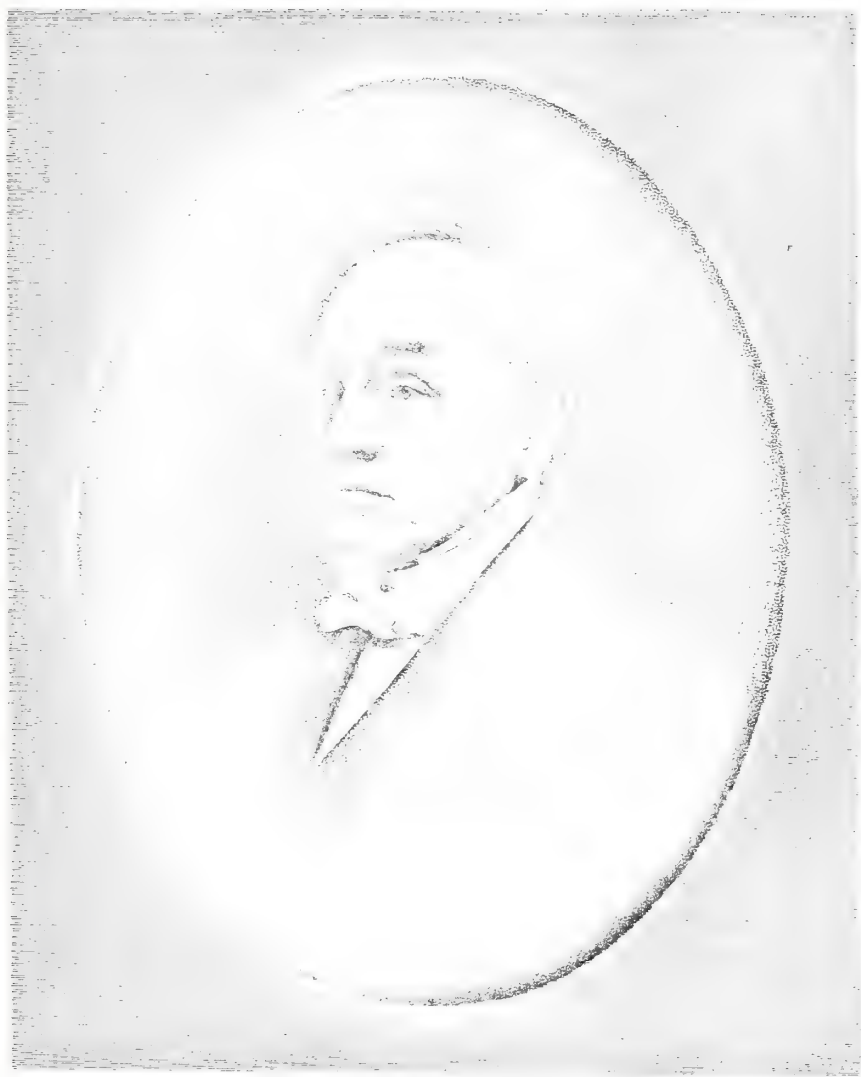
tery met at Bridgeport the same month—October 31—and took the church under its care, and installed Dr. Hewit its pastor. In 1860 this church was transferred to the Presbytery of Connecticut, and in 1870 to the Presbytery of Westchester, to which it still belongs. The services of installation were held in the Second Congregational Church edifice. At the installation of the pastor the following persons were ordained and installed ruling elders: Stephen Hawley, Thomas Hawley, John Brooks, Henry M. Hine and Stiles M. Middlebrook.

On February 1 the chapel on Myrtle avenue was dedicated, having cost about three thousand dollars. The church adjoining, on the corner of Myrtle avenue and West Liberty street, was dedicated August 8, 1855, and cost \$28,000. The lot on which the church and chapel stood was the gift of Capt. John Brooks and Capt. Burr Knapp.

From this time Dr. Hewit labored, as usual, with much success until failing strength made it necessary that he should have a colleague, and hence the Rev. H. G. Hinsdale, from Germantown, Pa., and formerly of New York City, was installed pastor October 28, 1862. Upon this, or soon after, Dr. Hewit insisted on being relieved from any responsibility in the pulpit except by invitation.

Nathaniel Hewit, D.D., was born in New London, Ct., August 28, 1788, and graduated at Yale College in 1808, licensed to preach September 24, 1811, and afterwards studied theology at Andover. He was installed, in his first charge, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Plattsburgh, N. Y., July 5, 1815. The severity of the climate necessitated his resignation, and he was dismissed October 2, 1817, and on the 14th of the next January was installed pastor of the Congregational Church at Fairfield, Conn., where he labored ten years with much success. He was a strong advocate of temperance, and in 1827 was engaged in the service of the American Temperance Society, and lectured in the principal cities of Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York and Pennsylvania, and organized many temperance societies. After great success as a temperance lecturer and organizer three years, he was installed on December 1, 1830, pastor of the Second Congregational





Nathl. Hewitt

Church of Bridgeport. He sailed for London, where he arrived June 28, 1831, and delivered an address in Exeter Hall the next evening, and on the 19th of July assisted in the formation of the British and Foreign Temperance Society. He visited Paris and afterwards delivered addresses in London, Birmingham and Liverpool. In the autumn of the same year he returned to Bridgeport and assumed his pastoral duties and continued for more than twenty years to serve successfully this church, his fame and influence as a theologian augmenting with every year's labor.

In 1853 a division arose in his congregation in regard to procuring him an associate. A large number withdrew and formed the First Presbyterian Church, to which they called their "old, revered, and beloved pastor, whose ministrations they could not consent to forego." He was dismissed from his former charge September 21, and October 31 was installed over the latter, where "he continued to preach the Word and feed the flock of God" till nearly fourscore years of age.

Dr. Hewit was twice married. His first wife, Miss Rebecca Hillhouse, of New Haven, died January 4, 1831. His second wife, Miss Susan Eliot, of Fairfield, died May 1, 1857.

In the fall of 1858, having arrived at the age of seventy years, he tendered his resignation, which his people refused to accept. Four years later, April 1, 1862, he released his salary to the congregation, and in August of the same year Rev. Horace G. Hinsdale was called as associate pastor. To this colleague and successor he cordially handed over his charge, preaching occasionally, until on Sabbath morning, February 3, 1867, he "fell asleep."

Of the three children who survived him, one, Henry S. Hewit, M.D., late surgeon of the Army of the Cumberland, has since died; another son, Rev. Augustus F. Hewit, is one of the Paulist Fathers of New York; the other, Sarah, the widow of the late William S. Bowen, M.D., surgeon U. S. N., resides in New Haven.

A marble tablet to his memory, which was destroyed when the church edifice was burned in 1874, has been replaced in the new sanctuary by a handsome memorial baptismal font



of carved stone, the gift of the children of the Sunday school. To a memorial discourse delivered on the occasion of his funeral, February 6, 1867, by Rev. Lyman H. Atwater, D.D., of Princeton, N. J., we are indebted for much of the foregoing sketch. Of him it may be well said,—

"He being dead yet speaketh."¹²

In the autumn of 1872 an organ was placed in the church at an expense of nearly \$5,000.

In 1873 the chapel was taken down and a new one, costing \$11,000, was erected, and the work of enlarging the church organ, already one of the finest in New England, and putting a new roof on the church, amounting to about \$6,000, was also accomplished.

These and other improvements were not quite completed when, on Wednesday evening, December 9, 1874, both church and chapel, with all their contents, were destroyed by fire, probably occasioned by the careless use of candles by a workman. The burning steeple, 227 feet in height, was a brilliant spectacle. The loss upon the buildings and their contents amounted to \$70,000, the insurance being \$35,000. Resolutions of condolence and tenders of the use of their several edifices were made by most of the other churches in Bridgeport, but the church preferred to occupy the opera house, corner of State and Main streets, for a season. Owing to the liberality of Capt. Brooks and other members of the society, rebuilding was promptly commenced. The old site was sold and the present one on the corner of State street and Myrtle avenue was purchased, and the work commenced April 28, 1875, and on the 12th of October, 1876, the new church was dedicated, it having cost, including chapel, organ and furniture, about \$94,000. With the new and advantageous facilities the people were encouraged and the work of the church prospered.

In October, 1877, Mr. Hinsdale was dismissed by the Presbytery to accept a call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church at Princeton, N. J. He was succeeded February 14, 1878, by the Rev. H. A. Davenport, who is at present a

¹² From a historical sermon by the Rev. Horace G. Hinsdale



Engraved by J. H. Smith

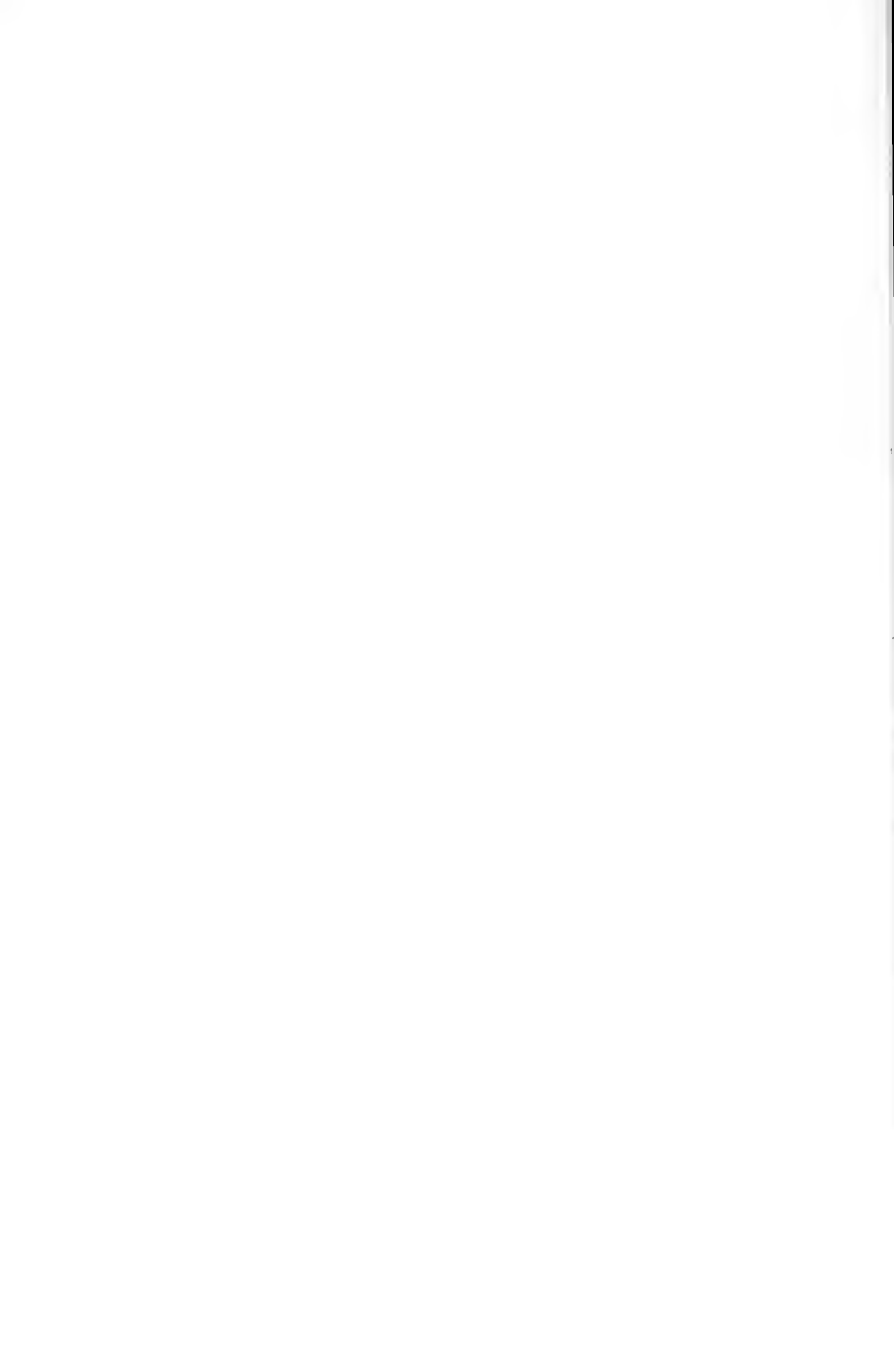
John Brooks

Capt. John Brooks, son of John Brooks, Senior, died at his residence 263 Main Street in Bridgeport, at eight o'clock A. M., December 7, 1881, at the advanced age of eighty-six years, having been a prominent figure in the community over seventy years. His father, also a prominent man of his time, died January 17, 1862, at the great age of ninety seven years, so that the son was known as John Brooks, Jr., until he himself was a veteran in years as well as experience. He was born in East Bridgeport, the son of Capt. John and Mary Coe Brooks, September 18, 1795, at which time there were but ten houses on the east side of the harbor. For his education he received the advantages of the district school and of the Stratford Academy, of which the distinguished David Plant, afterward Lieutenant-Governor, was preceptor. At the age of fifteen years he went to New York to live with John Vanderbilt, and the next year, 1811, entered the store of Gershom Smith, grocer, in Peck Slip, as clerk, but soon found he had mistaken his calling, and on the breaking out of the war of 1812, came home. His father being a seafaring man, he early imbibed a fondness for the water and acquired skill as a boatman. That he was a born leader is evident from the fact that at the early age of eighteen years he was given charge of a vessel, as well as from his subsequent history, which was that of a popular and successful steamboat commander. His life career is outlined as follows: He first sailed the sloop "Arab" in 1813, from Bridgeport to New York, the sloop "Intrepid" in 1814, the sloop "Patriot" in 1815, the sloop "Mary Ann" in 1816. On October 14, 1817, he married Mary, daughter of Zalmon Hawley, who survived him, and in the same year entered into a co-partnership with Isaac Sherman, Esq., occupying a store on Water Street, Mr. Sherman attending the store and Capt. Brooks sailing the sloop "Mary Ann" as a regular packet to and from New York until 1822. Esquire Sherman, in his reminiscences, speaks in warm terms of his agreeable relations with Capt. Brooks, and of his many acts of kindness to himself and family.

In 1824, he took charge of the steamboat "John Marshall," plying between New York and Norwalk, Bridgeport passengers being taken to Norwalk by stage. The next year he was transferred to the steamer "United States," running between New Haven and New York, and soon after to the "S. B. Hudson," a fine boat built by Montgomery Livingston, and run on the same route.

In 1826 and 1827 he commanded the steamer "Franklin" and the "Governor Wolcott," on the Hudson river. At this period he made the acquaintance of Capt. Cornelius Vanderbilt, which ripened into a warm and life-long friendship, and contributed largely to his prosperity. An incident connected with their business relations is worthy of special notice. While Capt. Brooks was running one of Cornelius Vanderbilt's boats, Mr. Vanderbilt made arrangements for and insisted on Sunday trips. Capt. Brooks at once resigned his position. This occurred when he was a young man, dependent entirely upon his own labor for livelihood. From his knowledge of Mr. Vanderbilt's character, he had no doubt that all business relations between them were at an end, but he was true to his religious principles and convictions of duty at whatever cost, and certainly the cost did seem great. After a short interval, however, Mr. Vanderbilt invited him to return to his service, with total exemption from Sunday duty, with advanced position and better pay than before, which is an instance where sturdy adherence to the right was openly rewarded; and that too by a man who then made no pretensions to a religious character.

Subsequently, Capt. Brooks commanded the "Emerald," running between New York and Norwalk, the "Bellona" and "Thistle," to New Brunswick, N. J.



and the "Ansonia" and "Nimrod," to Norwalk, Bridgeport and Birmingham. The "Nimrod" was sold in 1864, during the war, for transportation purposes, and this closed his long career upon the water.

Capt. Brooks was appreciated by his fellow citizens in civil life, as is evident from the offices to which he was elected by their suffrages. The first office held by him under the city government was membership on the Board of Relief, to which he was successively elected in 1851, '52 and '53. On October 20, 1857, he was elected Mayor of the City, to fill a vacancy. On the 7th of October, 1864, he was again elected Mayor. He was elected Alderman April 2, 1866, and appointed by the Common Council Superintendent of Docks and Wharves, May 7, 1866. Politically, he was a decided republican from the organization of that party. Previous to that he acted with the Whig party. He naturally took great interest in Bridgeport harbor, watched its currents and the changes they wrought. In 1830-33 there was but five feet of water at low tide on the outer bar, and the larger vessels had to be lighted to get in and out. The steamers were compelled often to wait for the rising tide. He petitioned Congress, which resulted in an appropriation, and the channel was deepened, but the "ditch" was narrow and needed a light. Another successful petition was promoted by him, and a temporary light was provided, and afterwards the present substantial light-house was built. His observations suggested the breakwater and that was constructed, and he was also largely influential in the location and construction of the lighthouse on Penfield Reef, all most necessary and useful improvements.

Capt. Brooks and his wife, Maria Brooks, united with the First Congregational Church, October 7, 1821. At the division of the church in 1830, they were of the number who were dismissed to form the Second or South Church. Here he was the faithful ally and helper of that great and good man, Nathaniel Hewit, D.D. At that period Dr. Hewit was opposed to the employment of the organ in church music, but did not object to Capt. Brooks' violin nor even a second one. The South Church choir was famous for number, volume and drill. For quite a period Capt. Brooks brought up from New York the celebrated professor, Thomas Hastings, to instruct this choir. At the organization of the First Presbyterian Church, October 31, 1853, under the leadership of Dr. Hewit, he was ordained a ruling elder and was active in all church work, living the life of a faithful Christian man. The growth and prosperity of this church have been largely due to his large financial contributions. He, with the late Capt. Burr Knapp, gave the land on the corner of Myrtle Avenue and West Liberty Street, on which the first house of worship was erected, and when that building was destroyed by fire, December 9, 1874, he, although sick at the time, said the same evening: "We shall begin to rebuild before the bricks are cold." The present beautiful edifice was largely due to his efforts. He headed the subscription with a handsome sum, and when a few years later an effort was made to pay a debt of about \$30,000, he subscribed more than one-third of the whole sum, and the entire amount was secured in less than a week. His characteristic Christian benevolence was wont to find an outlet through the church, but many citizens, not church members, in the humbler walks of life, can testify to his large-hearted, open-handed assistance in times of need.

He had no children, and after providing in his will for sundry bequests and legacies to relatives and friends, he left the balance of his estate to be forever appropriated to Christian and benevolent uses. His aged widow survived him about four years and was then gently called to join him in the spirit world. She also left all her estate for religious and benevolent uses.



successful pastor of the church. The late Mrs. Mary Bishop was one of the most liberal benefactors of this church, having subscribed largely to build it and also to cancel the debt incurred in its erection.

Ruling Elders in the First Presbyterian Church :

Stephen Hawley, ordained October 31, 1853, died November 4, 1861.

Thomas Hawley, ordained October 31, 1853, dismissed October 26, 1861.

John Brooks, ordained October 31, 1853, died December 7, 1881.

Stiles M. Middlebrook, ordained October 31, 1853, dismissed February 10, 1878.

Henry M. Hine, ordained October 31, 1853, dismissed in June, 1879.

Egbert Marsh, elected in April, 1860, dismissed February 10, 1878.

David F. Hollister, elected in April, 1860.

Alexander Wheeler, elected December, 1878.

Alexander Lane, elected December, 1878.

Richard H. Townsend, elected December, 1878.

Rev. Henry Adolphus Davenport is a native of Stamford, Conn., and descended in a direct line from the first minister at New Haven. He was educated at Williston Seminary, Amherst College, Mass., and the Union Theological Seminary of New York City, a part of which time he was engaged in teaching. He was ordained in June, 1873, and preached four and a half years in a chapel of the Fifth Avenue Reformed Church of New York City. He was installed pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Bridgeport February 14, 1878, and is serving this parish at present, as also heretofore, with much credit and faithfulness. The membership of this church numbers 300, and the Sunday school 350.

The German Reformed Church was organized October 1, 1860, the Rev. Andrew Schroeder being pastor from 1860 to 1864. In 1868 the church was reorganized, having

for their pastor the Rev. Caspar Brunner, who still continues in that office with good success. In the same year the society purchased the Polanna Chapel, standing on State street, nearly opposite Myrtle avenue, which they occupied until the beginning of the year 1883, when they sold this property, purchased another site on Congress street near Main, running through to Chapel street, and built upon it a church edifice and parsonage, both of brick, at an expense of about \$20,000. The membership numbers about 150, having made good progress during the short time since their organization.

Christ Church (Episcopal).—The call for the first meeting of "persons interested in the formation of a new parish in this city," was read by the rector of St. John's Church August 3, 1850, and a meeting of such persons was appointed for Tuesday evening, August 6, at the vestry room of St. John's Church. A meeting was holden at that time and place, at which Charles Bostwick presided and John S. Smith was secretary. At a meeting holden August 13, 1850, a resolution was passed "that a Parish of the Protestant Episcopal Church be formed," and the name "Parish of Christ Church" was formally adopted. On August 16, 1850, the parish organized by the election of the following officers: Senior Warden, Charles Bostwick; Junior Warden, Russell Tomlinson; Vestry, Charles B. Ferguson, Chauncey M. Hatch, Charles M. Booth, Samuel Stratton, Aaron T. Beardsley, Philip B. Segee; Treasurer, Henry Shelton; Clerk, John S. Smith.

The first rector was the Rev. J. Howard Smith, who was called November 7, 1850, and who was rector till April, 1854. During this time the land was bought for the present church on Courtland street, the corner stone of which was laid on Good Friday, April 9, 1852. The building committee were Stephen Tomlinson, S. B. Ferguson, and Aaron T. Beardsley. The church edifice was completed in 1853, and was consecrated by Bishop Thomas Church Brownell, on the 21st day of April of that year. It is built of brown stone, and cost about \$32,000.

The rectors succeeding Mr. Smith have been as follows:



the Rev. William Preston, 1854-1856; Rev. George E. Thrall, 1856-1859; Rev. L. W. Bancroft, 1860-1861; Rev. Henry M. Stewart, 1861-1863; Rev. John Falkner Blake—subsequently John Blake Falkner, 1863-1870; Rev. John J. Harrison, April 12, 1870-November 28, 1870; Rev. N. L. Briggs, 1871-1875; Rev. Dr. H. N. Powers, 1875-1885; Rev. Beverly E. Warner, 1885, present incumbent. During its existence the following have at different times been Wardens of the church: Charles Bostwick,* S. B. Fergusson,* Russell Tomlinson,* P. H. Skidmore, S. S. Clapp,* Clapp Spooner, L. W. Clark, Daniel Hatch,* George C. Waldo, William H. Noble, George Munger. Those marked with an asterisk are deceased. The Parish Clerks have been: John S. Smith, R. T. Clark, Robert C. Booth, John S. Beers (eight years), J. B. Hay, M. H. Tomlinson, Edwin Hurd, D. W. Kissam, L. M. Segee (five years), S. R. Tomlinson, Charles W. McCord. The church chapel, in the rear of the church, was erected in 1867 at a cost of about nine thousand dollars. During the rectorship of the Rev. M. Briggs the brick block on Courtland street opposite the church, and in which was the residence of the rector, was burned, and many of the parish records and papers were lost. Among these was the roll of the parish, containing upwards of three hundred families. At the parish meeting for 1885-6, held on April 9, the following officers were elected: Senior Warden, John McCord (Mr. McCord subsequently declined and William H. Noble was chosen in his place); Junior Warden, George Munger; Vestry, L. W. Clark, George C. Waldo, S. F. Raymond, H. H. Pyle, Clapp Spooner, F. M. Wilson, C. B. Hotchkiss, L. N. Van Keuren, A. B. Beers, John McCord, C. F. Wood, S. B. Beardsley, George Richardson, P. B. Segee, S. W. Ely, R. T. Whiting, S. S. Jarvis, A. J. Cable, John North, C. W. McCord, Blaise Soules, C. S. Lupton, C. R. Brothwell, A. H. Doolittle, John M. Wheeler, H. C. Fairchild; Treasurer, L. N. Van Keuren; Clerk, Charles W. McCord.

It will be seen that but one of these gentlemen, P. B. Segee, was a member of the original vestry at the founding of the parish. The church, in point of ecclesiastical polity, might be called a low, broad church, and its membership has

been largely drawn from the liberal portion of the community. It has a large and flourishing Sunday school, which has always been an important adjunct to its work and a source of strength. It has also a very active Ladies' Aid Society, which is constant in work of a charitable and helpful character. Since the loss of the parish records no census has been taken of the membership, but the present rector, Mr. Warner, is engaged in compiling one. The church is the most centrally located Episcopal church in Bridgeport and the parish is a large and able one.

The church has suffered severely by death in the last fifteen years. Beside those marked above among its wardens as deceased, there have died of its prominent members, I. H. Whiting, Frederick Wood, Benjamin Ray, George Keeler, and Samuel Titus.

Horatio Nelson Powers, D.D., was born in Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y., prepared for college at the Amenia Seminary, graduated at Union College, Schenectady, studied theology in the General Theological Seminary, New York, and was ordained in Trinity Church, New York, July 1, 1855. He served as assistant to the Rev. Dr. Samuel Bowman, St. James's, Lancaster, Pa., till the spring of 1857, when he married Clemence Emma, only daughter of Prof. Francis Fauvel Gouraud, of the University of France, and removed to Davenport, Iowa. He resided there as rector of St. Luke's Church, and afterwards as President of Griswold College, till the fall of 1868, when he accepted a call to St. John's Church, Chicago, where, in addition to his ministerial relations, he was a Regent of the Chicago University, President of the Foundling's Home, Corresponding Secretary of the Chicago Literary Club, of which he was one of the founders, and a lecturer before the Athenæum. In November, 1875, he took charge of Christ Church, Bridgeport. His connection with this parish terminated October, 1885. In Bridgeport he was president and one of the founders of the Scientific Society. He is an honorary member of several learned bodies, and a Fellow of the Clarendon Historical Society, of Edinburgh, Scotland. Dr. Powers received the degree of

D.D. from his Alma Mater in 1867. He has contributed, either in prose or verse, to most of the prominent periodicals in the country, such as the "Century," "Harper's Magazine," "Lippincott's," "International Review," "Literary World," New York "Evening Post," "The Independent," "Round Table," "The Critic," "The Chicago Dial." He has also been the American contributor to "*L'Art*," the great art journal of France. His books are "Through the Year," published by Roberts Brothers; poems "Early and Late," Jansen, McClurg & Co.; and "A Brief Biography of William Cullen Bryant," Appleton & Co. He has been fortunate in his friendships; Philip Gilbert Hamerton dedicated to him his beautiful work, "The Unknown River," and presented him with two of his admirable oil paintings—the only ones by this artist and critic in America. He was on intimate terms with Bryant and Bayard Taylor. Specimens of Dr. Powers' poetry are found in nearly all the important collections of the American poets—Bryant's, Longfellow's, Epes Sargent's, Stoddard's, Piatt's, F. F. Brown's, etc.

C. W. deL. Nichols, candidate for Holy Orders from Christ Church parish, is connected, through his father's family, with some of the most distinguished Episcopal clergymen of the diocese, including the last one who went to Scotland for Orders and the first one who was ordained in the United States. Mr. Nichols has had an unusually advantageous preparation for the study of divinity. He graduated from the classical department of Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Mass., in 1874, with high honors. Mr. Nichols was afterwards bred at the Johns Hopkins University, besides having spent many years elsewhere in general culture. For two years he was instructor in metaphysics and English literature in the preparatory department of Seabury Divinity School, under Bishop Whipple, at Faribault, Minnesota, until in the year 1884 he entered the General Theological Seminary at New York, where he is at present studying. Mr. Nichols is also familiar with philosophical circles in various parts of the country, and has written articles on philosophic, historic and literary themes.

Trinity Church, Bridgeport.—This parish was organized June 1, 1863, and was admitted into union with the Convention of the Diocese of Connecticut, June 10, 1863. A hall on the second floor of the New York and New Haven Railroad depot was quickly and tastefully prepared for temporary occupancy by the parish, and in it the first service was held on Sunday, June 14, 1863. The corner-stone of the church, on the corner of Fairfield avenue and Broad street, was laid on the 2d of November in the same year. The edifice was finished in the following spring and early summer, services began to be held in it Sunday, July 3, 1864, and it was consecrated by the Right Reverend John Williams, D.D., Assistant Bishop of Connecticut, on Wednesday, November 2, 1864. It is a substantial building of brown stone from the Portland quarries, Gothic—of the early English period—in its style of architecture, and has a seating capacity of six hundred.

The parish was formed by members from St. John's Church, Bridgeport. Sixty families took part in its organization. Its motive was this, viz: a desire to work for the Saviour's glory and to advance His Kingdom—a Kingdom of righteousness, mercy, truth, honor and charity. It has enjoyed nearly a quarter of a century of unbroken harmony and of quiet and steady growth, and is now one of the first parishes in the Diocese. It has had thus far but one rector, the Rev. Sylvester Clarke, who was born at Newtown, in this county, was ordained to the ministry in 1858, and became rector of the church in Oxford, Conn., coming from that parish to Bridgeport in March, 1861. Hon. Jarratt Morford has been the Senior Warden of this parish since its organization. Its Junior Wardens have been as follows: Ira Gregory, Esq.,* 1863–1883, Hon. E. B. Goodsell,* 1883–1884, Hon. D. N. Morgan, 1885, now serving.

Trinity Memorial Church, West Stratford, is a mission of Trinity Church, Bridgeport. On the 20th of September, 1871, the first of a series of Wednesday evening services was held at the residence of Silas Scofield, Esq., Newfield district. On the following Sunday, September 24, in the common school house of the same district, a Sunday

school was begun. The corner-stone of a chapel was laid by Bishop Williams, November 29, 1871. This building was finished in the May succeeding. It is of wood, cost about \$6,000, and will seat nearly 300 persons. The first service in it was that of the holy communion on Sunday morning (Whit Sunday), May 19, 1872. It is a memorial of the Rev. Gurdon Saltonstall Coit, D.D., twenty-eight years rector of St. John's Church, Bridgeport. At the present time about 40 families are connected with this mission, and it has an interesting Sunday school of 85 members.

The Church of the Nativity (Episcopal), a very picturesque stone building located on Sylvan avenue and Carson street, was erected mainly at the expense of the Rev. E. F. Bishop, of Bridgeport, with some assistance from Joseph Richardson, of North Bridgeport. Previous to this a mission school had been maintained by members of St. John's Church, Bridgeport, in a small building belonging to the woolen mills, then under the proprietorship of Nathaniel Green. E. F. Bishop officiated as lay reader, under the direction of the rector of St. John's Church, the Rev. Gurdon S. Coit, from the time he was licensed to that office by the Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Brownell, Bishop of Connecticut, November 21, 1856.

This church was organized June 4, 1856, the persons present being Mr. Bishop, Joseph Richardson, Eli Thompson, Ira Gregory, John Hurd, William M. Hubbell, and Henry M. Sherman, all laymen of St. John's Church. The sittings have always been free, and the service choral. The services have been conducted much of the time by Mr. Bishop himself. Rev. Gurdon S. Coit, D.D., held the rectorship until 1863 or 4. Mr. Bishop, having been ordained deacon May 21, 1860, and priest September 22, 1863, by the Rt. Rev. John Williams, assistant bishop of the diocese, was elected to the rectorship, being assisted at various times by the Rev. H. C. Stowell, the Rev. Charles H. W. Stocking, D.D., the Rev. O. L. Prescott, the Rev. Joseph W. Hill, until 1872, when the Rev. Henry Darby was elected rector and held it, nominally, until 1884, though much of the time he was absent from the charge. The services were carried on during this time partly

by the priests of St. John the Evangelist, with which society he was at first connected; then by the Rev. D. Lounsbury, and Lewis W. Wells, D.D. Mr. Bishop frequently officiated here until near the time of his decease, December 7, 1883.

A choral service in this part of the country, at the time it was started in this place, was a new thing and called forth much comment.

On the day of the consecration of this church the bishop and clergy having returned to dine with Mr. Bishop at his home, were listening to the amusing incident which was being related by some one at the table, that an owl had obtained an entrance into the church in some way and lodged itself among the beams so securely that it required much trouble to eject it before the service began. Much merriment was excited by Mr. Bishop's mother (who was a Presbyterian) pithily remarking that "Perhaps it came in to make the responses."

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Bridgeport.—In 1784 William Black, a preacher of the Methodist church in Nova Scotia, visited the United States for the purpose of consulting Dr. Coke and procuring assistance. He traveled by way of Boston, Mass., where he preached twice. He met Dr. Coke in Maryland and, either on his way thither or when returning, he preached several times in the Congregational Church in Stratfield, then standing at what is the corner of North and Park avenues. The impression made by his preaching was at first favorable, but upon a discovery of his Arminian theology he was pronounced a wolf in sheep's clothing. In one sermon, while preaching, he was interrupted by the pastor of the church, who stamped upon the floor and declared his doctrine to be damnable.¹³ He was the first Methodist preacher known to have visited the State of Connecticut or New England. There is evidence that his preaching had good results, for, according to Rev. Jesse Lee (memoirs, page 110), a desire was thereby awakened for the ministrations of Methodism. About the same time, or soon after a number of persons began to assemble for the purpose

¹³ Rev. Robert Ross.



of social religious exercises. Among those who thus assembled were a Mrs. Wells and a Mrs. Wheeler, both living at the south end of Park avenue,¹⁴ then called Mutton Lane.

In May, 1789, a Methodist conference was held in the city of New York, where Jesse Lee, the pioneer of New England Methodism, was appointed to the Stamford circuit, which appears to have included the greater part of the State lying west of the Connecticut river. On the 17th of June, 1789, he preached his first sermon in the State under a tree at Norwalk.¹⁵ June 18th he rode to Fairfield and preached in the Court House at 6 o'clock in the evening to about forty persons. He stopped over night at a public house kept by a Mr. Penfield. The next morning Mrs. Penfield, who heard him preach, gave him a note of introduction to her sister, Mrs. Wheeler of Park avenue, representing her as interested in the subject of religion, and desiring him to call on her.

While Mr. Lee was approaching the place Mrs. Wells was at the house of Mrs. Wheeler on a visit, and the two were in conversation upon the religious interests of the neighborhood. Just at the moment of his arrival that conversation became a point of extraordinary interest. Mrs. Wells told Mrs. Wheeler that on the preceding night she had dreamed that a man rode up to a house where she was, got off his horse, took his saddle-bags on his arm, and, walking directly into the house, said: "I am a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and am come to preach to the people of this place. If you will call your neighbors together I will preach to them to-night." Then Mrs. Wells said she retained so perfect a recollection of the man's face and general appearance that she would certainly know him if she should ever see him. While she was yet speaking she looked out the window and exclaimed, "Why, there is the man now!" Mr. Lee rode up, dismounted, took his saddle-bags on his arm, entered the house, and addressing the women, said: "I am a minister of

¹⁴ No. 3, on page 41.

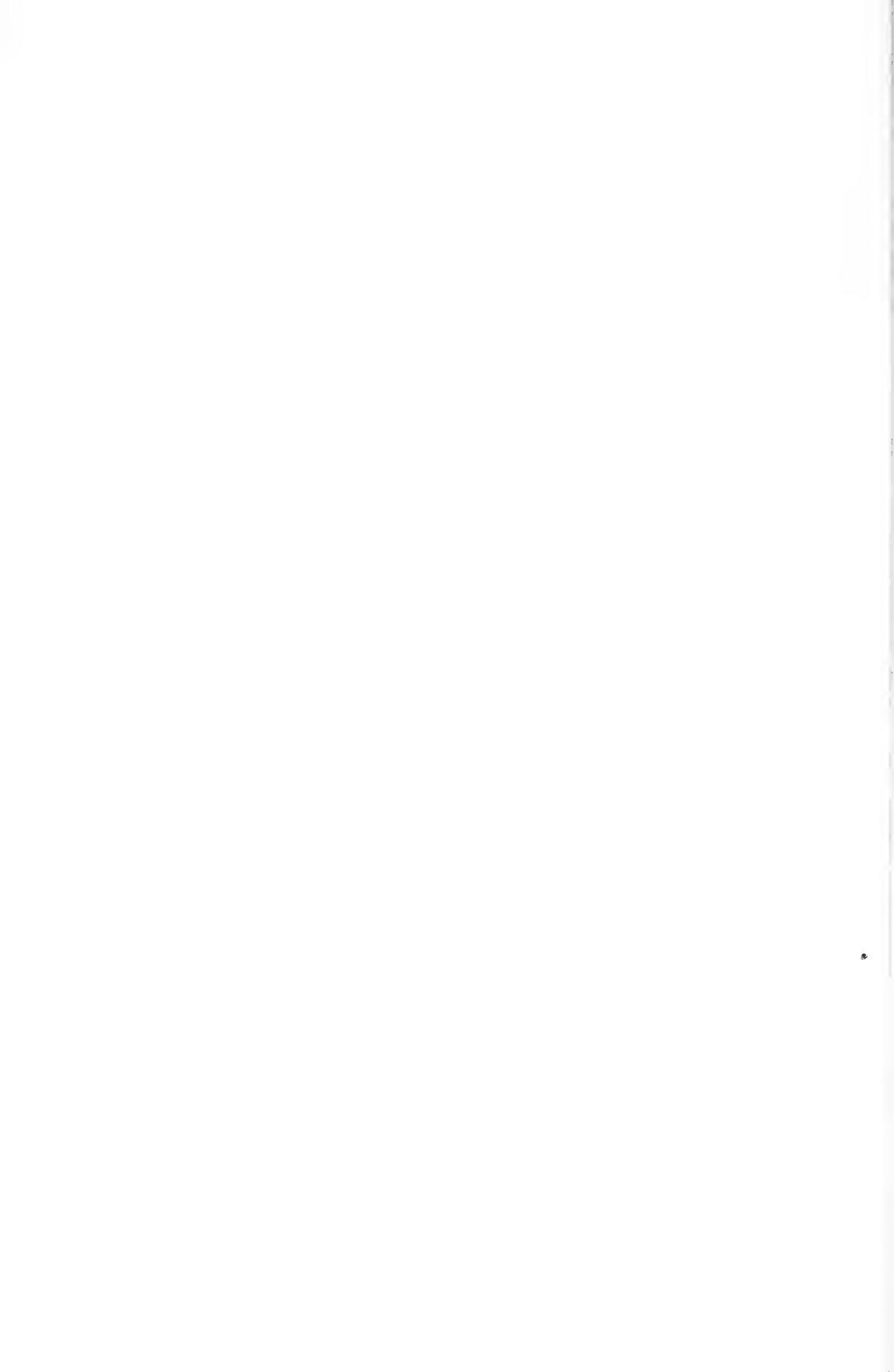
¹⁵ "The Rev. Cornelius Cook preached the first Methodist sermon in Norwalk, near the New Canaan parish line, in 1787; the Rev. Jesse Lee preached the next sermon on the 17th of June, 1789, in the highway, near the centre of the town."—*Hall's History of Norwalk, 170.*



the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and have come to preach to the people of this place. If you will call your neighbors together I will preach to them to-night." Mrs. Wells was so deeply affected as to be scarcely able to stand. Mr. Lee was welcomed, the neighbors were called together, Mr. Lee preached to them, and tradition says three conversions was the result, and that two of them were Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Wheeler. This service was held in the old yellow house on the south end and east side of Park avenue, on the 19th of June, 1789.

After visiting other places in the State Mr. Lee preached on the 3d of July at the house of Deacon Elijah Hawley, at Stratfield, and on the 5th of August preached again at the same house, though in the latter entry in his journal it is said to have been at Newfield. The house is still standing on the northwest corner of Thomas and Water streets. On the 14th of August Mr. Lee was again in this vicinity and preached at the house of Mr. Wells. The nucleus of the first Methodist society in this neighborhood, and, it is believed, the first in New England, consisted of a class organized by Mr. Lee September 26, 1789, in a house which stood on Toilsome Hill, on the west side of the highway, and hence in Fairfield. The three persons composing the class were Mrs. Wells, Miss Ruth Hall her sister, and a Mrs. Risley. These all died in great peace, within the memory of persons now connected with this church.

In 1790 Mr. Lee was made Presiding Elder of the New England work, but at that time the districts had no name, and scarcely any limits. The name of the circuit including this region of country was called Fairfield, and it extended to several townships, Redding being one of them. In this neighborhood preaching was held on week-day evenings, somewhat regularly, at the four following places: at Stephen Wells', on Division street, at widow Nichols', on Pequonnock Green, Ebenezer Brown's, on Toilsome Hill, at Father Penfield's, on Holland Hill, the house being occupied now, or recently, by Lewis Penfield. In 1797 a Methodist Church was built on Division street road north of Toilsome Hill at the corners of the roads about three miles north of the present North avenue. The late Dea. David Sherwood, who died January 24, 1873, aged 94 years, was at the raising of this



church, being then eighteen years of age. This statement was made by Dea. Sherwood to Dea. R. B. Lacey and others, and written down at the time for permanent record. After 1797 preaching was held, probably, most regularly at the new meeting house on Toilsome Hill, until 1815. During this early stage of this church the Conference, Circuit, Presiding Elders, and Preachers were :

- 1790. Jesse Lee, Presiding Elder, Fairfield circuit; John Bloodgood, preacher.
- 1791. Nathaniel B. Mills and Aaron Hunt, preachers.
- 1792. Jacob Brush, P. E.; Joshua Taylor and Smith Weeks, preachers.
- 1793. Thomas Ware, P. E.; Aaron Hunt and James Coleman, preachers.
- 1794. George Roberts, P. E.; Zebulon Kankey and Nicholas Sneathan, preachers.
- 1795. The name of the circuit was changed to Redding; George Roberts was P. E., and Daniel Dennison and Timothy Dewey, preachers.
- 1796. There were two P. E's, Freeborn Garretson and Sylvester Hutchinson, dividing all New England between them. The preachers for Redding circuit were Elijah Woblsey and Robert Leeds.
- 1797 to 1800. S. Hutchinson, P. E.; preachers: 1797, David Buck, Augustus Jocelyn; 1798, William Thatcher; 1799, David Brown.
- 1800. F. Garretson, P. E.; Augustus Jocelyn, preacher.
- 1801. The ministers began to give names to the districts; this circuit was in the New York district; F. Garretson, P. E.; S. Marvin, Isaac Candee, preachers.
- 1802. The same P. E.; J. Coleman and I. Candee, preachers.
- 1803. The same P. E.; James Campbell and N. W. Tompkins, preachers.
- 1804 to 1807. Wm. Thatcher, P. E.; preachers: 1804, P. Moriarty and Sylvester Foster; 1805, P. Moriarty and S. Merwin; 1806, Nathan Felch and Oliver Sykes.
- 1807 to 1810. Joseph Crawford, P. E.; preachers: 1807, J. M. Smith and Zalmon Lyon; 1808, Noble W. Thomas, J.



- Lyon; 1809, Billy Hibbard and I. Candee; 1810, Nathan Emory and John Russell.
1811. Redding circuit was included in the Rhinebeck district. Wm. Anson, P. E., two years; preachers: A. Hunt, O. Sykes, J. Reynolds; 1812, S. Rowell, G. Lyon, S. Beach.
- 1813 to 1817. Nathan Bangs, P. E.; preachers: A. Hunt and Henry Eames; 1814, E. Washburn and Reuben Harris; 1815, E. Woolsey and R. Harris; 1816, S. Bushnell and John Boyd.
- During this year the old Congregational meeting house at Pequonnock was purchased for use by the Methodists, and for about six years this was their gathering place for public worship, the services by the conference ministers being held on week-day evenings, unless some services were held on Sundays at the old meeting house at the corner of the roads on Toilsome Hill. During the year 1816 Benoni English and Elisha P. Jacobs, who were not members of the conference, preached on Sundays at the Pequonnock house.
1817. For the first time Bridgeport appears in the conference minutes, meaning the old Pequonnock church.
- 1817 to 1821. Ebenezer Washburn, P. E.; preacher, Aaron Hunt, who being ill, Cyrus Silliman, a local preacher, supplied; 1818, Bridgeport disappears from the minutes, being connected with Stratford circuit, Samuel Bushnell, preacher; 1819, S. Merwin, P. E.; preachers: Bela Smith and J. Coleman.
1822. The same P. E.; the preachers being Laban Clark and Eli Barnett. The Rev. John N. Maffit, the revivalist, spent a portion of this year in this place, and from this time preaching was discontinued in the old meeting house.
1823. Bridgeport again appears on the minutes with Wm. I. Pease as preacher. His pastoral care did not extend beyond the township, and under his labors the first Methodist church within the city limits was erected.
1824. Samuel Luckey, P. E. for three years; the preacher being Humphrey Humphreys.
- 1825 and 6. Bridgeport was again connected with the Redding circuit, the preachers being Marvin Richardson, H. Humphreys and F. W. Sizer.



1827. Samuel Ostrander, P. E.; preachers, Henry Stead and John Lovejoy.
1828. Bridgeport was again connected with the Stratford circuit.
1829. Laban Clark, P. E.; the preachers were J. Lovejoy and James H. Romer.
- 1830 and 31. The preachers were H. Bartlett and Charles Sherman.
1832. Heman Bangs, P. E.; preachers: S. Martindale and Laban C. Cheney.
1833. Preachers: James Youngs and J. Tackerberry.
1834. Bridgeport becomes a permanent station on the minutes of the conference; S. Martindale, P. E., and Davis Stocking the preacher.
- 1835 and 6. Wm. Jewett, P. E., and Charles F. Pelton was the preacher.
1837. Harmon D. Goslin was the preacher, but becoming ill, J. W. Lefevre supplied the remaining part of the year.
1838. Daniel Smith, pastor, and Mr. Goslin died and was buried here.
1839. Nicholas White, P. E.; pastor, Daniel Smith.
- 1840 to 1844. Charles W. Carpenter, P. E.; the pastor in 1840 was John M. Pease; in 1841 and 2, Salmon C. Perry, and in 1843 and 4, John L. Gilder.
- 1844 to 1848. Laban Clark, P. E.; pastors: 1845 and 6, James H. Perry; 1847, H. Bangs.
- 1848 to 1852. Heman Bangs, P. E.; pastor in 1848 and 9, George Brown. At the session of the general conference held in 1848 the New York conference was divided, and Bridgeport lay within the bounds of the New York East conference, and during the second year of Mr. Brown's pastorate the present church was erected. It is a very commodious and appropriate edifice. In 1850 John B. Stratton was pastor, and in 1851 and 2, Edwin L. Janes.
- 1852 and 3. William H. Norris, P. E.; pastor in 1853 and 4, Thomas G. Osborn.
- 1853 and 4. E. L. Janes, P. E.; pastor in 1855 and 6, Charles Fletcher. In 1856 Bridgeport gives name to a district in the New York east conference.



1856 to 1860. E. E. Griswold, P. E.; pastor in 1857, John M. Reid, and in 1859, William F. Collins.

1860 to 1863. William C. Hoyt, P. E.; pastor in 1860 and 61, Albert Nash. During the pastorate of Mr. Nash there was a reunion of the church, at which time the debt, amounting to \$8,000, was paid.

The following items of history are compiled from a sketch prepared, and read on that occasion, by Mr. Nash:

"After the organization of the first class in 1789, I am unable to give any satisfactory account of the members of the society for thirty-four years. It is probable that there was no register kept for a number of years, and that for several years succeeding, it was found in connection with Redding circuit. Under the labors of Mr. Maffit, in 1822, a class was formed in the city proper. In 1823, about the time the first church was erected here, we have a register of the persons then connected with the society."¹⁶

¹⁶ "Nathaniel Ruggles,
local preacher,

Burr Penfield,
Stephen Wells,
Mary Wells,
Mary Edwards,
Julia Ruggles,
Silas Turney,
Polly Turney,
John P. McEwen,
Harriet McEwen,
James Penfield,
Mary Penfield,
Anna Turney,
Anna Wheeler,
Phoebe Nichols,
Catharine Nichols,
Hannah Penfield,
John W. Beardsley,
Betsey Porter,
Sarah Burritt,
Sophia Plumb,
Eliza Cable,
Harriet Gould,
Fanny Middlebrook,

Griswold Odell,
Elias A. Hall,
Chauncy Ward,
William Bardsley,
Ezra Morris,
Stephen Durand,
Esther Durand,
Phoebe Hawkins,
Mary Hildroup,
Betsey Downs,
Catharine Ufford,
Mary Ann Hopkins,
Samantha Mosure,
Sally S. Curtis,
Charles G. Brisco,
Charles H. Wakelee,
Susan Wakelee,
Stiles Nichols,
Ebenezer Brown,
Sally Green,
Harpin Blake,
Harriet Hubbell,
Hannah Morris,
Mary Baldwin,
Eliza Evitts,

Ann Cables,
Mary Ann Patchin,
William Daggett,
Ruth Edwards,
John Beardsley,
Marietta Wells,
Hannah Blackman,
Catharine Witherill,
Ruth Hall,
Alice Hall,
Sylvina Booth,
Sally Brown,
Patience Mitchell,
Ruth Turney,
Susannah Tupler,
William L. Peet,
Seth Turney,
Maria Nichols,
Sally Hubbell,
John Feeley,
Zilpha Feeley,
Tracy Freeman,
Diana Lewis,
Effa Freeman."

"The following is a review of church enterprises:

"Before the church at Pequonnock was abandoned in 1821, a room was procured for holding Methodist meetings in the borough in what was then called the New Block, at the corner of Main and State streets, over the drug store. This place appears to have been procured mainly by the efforts of Nathaniel Ruggles, who had been converted a few years previous under the labors of the Rev. Benoni English, at the Pequonnock Church. From my best information I conclude this hall was first occupied by our people in the winter of 1821 and 2, and that John N. Maffit then held a series of meetings in it.

"In the year 1822 measures were taken for the erection of our first house of worship in this city. The members of the society were first organized into an ecclesiastical body according to law, June 30, 1821, and the principal members are stated in the warrant to have been Nathaniel Ruggles, Burr Penfield, Agur Bassett, Richard Fuller and Stephen Durand.

"At the first meeting, held for the purpose of organization, Stiles Nichols, long and favorably known as the editor of the *Republican Farmer*, acted as chairman; N. Ruggles was chosen clerk; and A. Bassett, John P. McEwen, and R. Fuller were chosen the trustees.

"On the 11th of February, 1822, the meeting voted to proceed in the erection of a house of worship, and N. Ruggles was entrusted with all the business necessary to be done in the matter. The site of the church was located at a meeting held May 13, 1823, and the house, though for some years remaining unfinished, was occupied for worship the latter part of that year, Mr. Maffit preaching the first sermon in it. The trustees at the time of its erection were Charles H. Wakeley, J. P. McEwen, B. Penfield, Abram S. Smith, and Elias A. Hall. That church stood on the site of the present one. It was forty by sixty feet, and its cost, with the lot, was about three thousand dollars. That house stood about twenty-six years, and in 1849 it was burned. Measures were immediately taken to erect the present church edifice, and while it was being built the society worshiped in Wordin's Hall, at



the corner of State and Water streets. On the 14th of February, 1850, this house was dedicated—the Rev. Dr. Durbin and the Rev. Allen Steele preaching on the occasion. At its completion a debt of about nine thousand dollars remained, which was paid in 1860, Mr. Eben Fairchild generously giving half the sum upon the rest being raised by others.

“The first Sunday school in connection with this society was organized during the conference year commencing in 1828. The records of this school were burned with the church in 1849.”

The pastors in this church since 1862 have been: 1862 and 3, John Miley; 1864 and 5, Ichabod Simmons; 1866 and 7, Frank Bottome; 1867, 8 and 9, James M. Carroll; 1870, John Dickenson; 1871, 2 and 3, S. H. Platt; 1874, 5 and 6, Daniel O. Ferris; 1877, 8 and 9, George A. Hubbell; 1879, 80 and 81, Charles E. Harris; 1881 and 82, H. Q. Judd; 1883, 4, 5, W. W. Clark.¹⁷

The Washington Park Methodist Episcopal Church was organized September 12, 1853. The first church edifice was erected on the corner of Barnum and Noble streets, and was completed and occupied in the same year. Its original cost was four thousand dollars, but in 1867 it was enlarged and improved at an expense of eleven thousand dollars. This structure was removed in 1883, and a commodious brick edifice erected on the old site, with a chapel and parlor rooms adjoining, for Sunday school and social meetings. The corner-stone of this edifice was laid May 23, 1883, and the dedication services were held March 30, 1884. Their present pastor is the Rev. Edwin G. Blake.¹⁸

The Tabernacle Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in July, 1873. In March, 1874, the house of worship, which stands on North Main street, at the foot of Frank street, was completed, and in the following month the Rev. A. B. Sanford was appointed its pastor. His successors have been the Rev. S. H. Smith, the Rev. David Osborn, the Rev.

¹⁷ This historical sketch is taken from a record made in the church book by the Rev. D. O. Ferris, the pastor, at the time, 1878 or 9.

¹⁸ After the type were set for this history a pamphlet was obtained containing a full account of the church.

Joseph R. Dumble, who commenced his labors here in March, 1880. The cost of the church edifice, including the lot, was about \$4,500. Their present pastor is the Rev. O. F. Tree.

The African Methodist Episcopal Churches are two, located on Broad, near Whiting street. The older, or Bethel Church, was built in 1835; the younger and larger, known as Zion Church, was completed, as a tablet over the door informs the passer by, in June, 1843. These churches hold regular church and Sunday school services.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church is located on East Main street, and the Rev. Gustave Bobolin is pastor.

A Stillwellite Methodist Church had an existence several years in Bridgeport. The Stillwell itinerant ministers commenced preaching here, at Zoar Bridge, and in Derby in 1821 or 2. Their services here were held in the old Congregational meeting house, at the corner of North and Park avenues, which had been several years occupied by the Methodist Episcopal Church of Bridgeport. Their ministers' names were David P. Candill, Lounsbury, and Brewer. The Rev. Mr. Tuckerman came in 1824 and remained about five years, when the society was merged into the Methodist Episcopal Church. There was a class formed of the Stillwellites and a leader appointed. The following were some of the members: Anson Bradley, of Toilsome Hill, Samuel Hodges, of Bridgeport, Joel Mitchell and wife, Mills Middlebrook and wife, Benjamin Bennett, Mrs. Isaac Odell, Capt. Thomas Brothwell and wife.

The meetings were attended by the community, and Mr. Tuckerman was much esteemed, and was supported by members of various churches living in that neighborhood. He afterwards joined the Congregational church, and preached a time in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he died in the pulpit.

After Mr. Tuckerman left, a Protestant Methodist came and preached a short time. Lorenzo Dow preached in this old church to crowded congregations, the capacity of the house being such as to seat about four hundred.¹⁹

¹⁹ For all the particulars of this Stillwell Church, see manuscript of Mr. S. M. Main, deposited with the Fairfield County Historical Society.

The Hebrew congregation (*Benai Israel*), in Bridgeport, was organized September 19, 1859, the first minister being the Rev. A. Jacobs, and the place of worship No. 35 Wall street. The ministers have changed frequently. For a time the congregation met at Freedman's Building, on State street opposite the court house, but it now meets every Friday evening at seven o'clock and every Saturday morning at eight o'clock, in the Curtis Building, 483 Main street. The Rev. Gustav Gumpel is the pastor.

The Advent Christian Church of Bridgeport was organized in November, 1849, with fourteen members, and has maintained regular services ever since, on Sunday and week-day evenings, although most of the time without a pastor. About eighty members have been added since the church was formed. The place of meeting is Temperance Hall, on Beach street.

The Church of Christ in Bridgeport have held meetings since the year 1871, but were not formally organized as a church until August 23, 1874, under the leadership of Dr. W. A. Belding, of Troy, N. Y. The meetings were at first held in a private house, but for several years past they have been conducted in the hall at No. 356 Main street, on Sunday and two week-day evenings. The church has had no regularly installed or employed pastor, but has had the service of revivalists, especially that of Charles Abercrombie, in May, 1880.

St. Augustine's Church—Catholic.—The Rev. Father McDermott was the first Catholic priest who celebrated mass in Bridgeport. This was in the house of Mr. Farrell, on Middle street, in the year 1834, there being then about eighteen Catholic families residing in this city. Soon afterwards, by order of Bishop Fenwick, the Rev. James Smith visited Bridgeport once a month for the purpose of holding services. He built the brick church which stood on the corner of Arch street and Washington avenue, and the church was called St. James's Church. The Rev. Michael Lynch was the first settled pastor of this church and of the Catholic people in Bridgeport, and received his appointment here in December, 1842.



ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH AND ST. AGNES CONVENT.

On September 2, 1852, the Rev. Thomas J. Synnot was appointed by Bishop O'Reilly pastor of this church. Soon after his arrival he commenced building the church of St. Mary, on Crescent avenue, in East Bridgeport, and finished it in the following year. In this same year he began St. Thomas' Church, at Fairfield, and finished it in 1854. In 1864, the brick church on Washington avenue having become too small, the foundation of the present edifice was laid on the corner of Washington avenue and Pequonnock street. This church, which is the largest in Bridgeport, was named St. Augustine Church and dedicated March 17, 1867, and cost about one hundred thousand dollars. It is built of gray granite from the quarries of North Bridgeport. It is intended to carry the spire about ninety feet higher than its present termination, making it far the highest object in the city, and the more so because of its location on Golden Hill. The whole number of Catholics embraced in the St. Augustine parish is about four thousand souls, and the average attendance at mass is estimated to be three thousand. The Sunday school contains about six hundred and fifty members. The amount raised for church purposes, parish expenses, and buildings, during the pastorate of twenty-eight years of the Rev. Father Synnot, cannot be far from a quarter of a million dollars.

Adjoining this church on the west is a large, imposing structure, built of granite from Plymouth, Conn., which is the home of the Sisters of Mercy and an academy for young ladies. It was completed in 1881 and cost about the same as the church.

Church of Sacred Heart of Jesus was erected in the year 1884, on Myrtle avenue near Prospect street. It is built of brick with granite trimmings, in the equilateral Gothic style, large and commodious, the ceiling being vaulted and groined. Rev. Dennis J. Cremin is the pastor.

St. Mary's Church—Catholic—of Bridgeport, is located on the corner of Pembroke and Steuben streets, and is a fine brick edifice with stone basement. This church was commenced as an out mission of St. James's, now St. August-

ine's, and was a frame building located on the corner of Crescent avenue and Church street, erected in 1854. The first missionaries to this church were the Reverends M. O'Neil, P. Lamb and Dr. Wallace. The first pastor was the Rev. Peter A. Smith, installed in April, 1857, who built the parsonage house and continued pastor until February 10, 1862. He afterwards died while pastor at Norwalk, Conn. He was succeeded by the Rev. Francis J. Lenihan, who continued pastor until November 1, 1866, when he was transferred to Woonsocket, R. I., where he died. He was followed by the Rev. Richard O. Gorman, who served until October 6, 1867, and was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Dea, who continued to his death, July 23, 1873. These all ministered in the old church. The Rev. John F. Rogers was transferred from Newtown, Conn., where he was pastor five years, to this parish the Sunday following the decease of Father Dea. He was graduated at Mount St. Mary's College, at Emmetsburgh, Md. He commenced the new church edifice in June, 1874, located on the corner of Pembroke and Steuben streets, the corner-stone was laid May 16, 1875, and the house was dedicated October 14, 1877, by the late Bishop Galbury. The edifice is built in the Romanesque style, the basement of stone and the superstructure of brick, 74 feet front on Pembroke street and 154 feet in length, with a spire 187 feet in height. Its principal ornament inside is a Roman altar 35 feet in height. The basement is 14 feet in height, completed and occupied as a Sunday school room and for the meeting of various societies connected with the church. The parsonage was built in 1881, adjoining the church on the south, the lot extending to Sherman street.

The old church edifice has been remodeled into a parochial school building, the school being taught by the Sisters of Mercy, residing in the old parsonage adjoining. Mr. Rogers was the first to introduce the Sisters into Bridgeport. This parish, including West Stratford, now contains about three thousand souls.

The assistant pastor is the Rev. J. C. O'Connell, and the trustees are Patrick Cullen, John Flood; the committee, Martin Lee, John B. Sullivan, Martin Quinlan, Patrick Gil-

martin, Thomas McGovern; organist, Sister Mary Burkman; the superintendents of the Sunday school are the Sisters of Mercy.

The German Catholic Church was organized in December, 1874, and for a time held religious services in a hall in Wheeler's Building, on Main street. From this they removed to the building No. 449 Main street. The present house of worship, on Madison avenue near Washington, was commenced in October, 1878, and completed in April of the following year, at a cost, including the lot, of eight thousand dollars. The Rev. Joseph A. Schaele, of New Haven, has been the pastor from the organization of the church to the present time. There were at first twenty-five families in the congregation, which now numbers seventy-five families, or about three hundred persons. The Sunday school has one hundred members. Mass is celebrated and a sermon preached every Sunday morning, the pastor returning to New Haven at the conclusion of the services.

The Park Street Congregational Church is located on the corner of Park and Barnum streets, fronting Washington Park. A movement toward the organization of a Congregational church in that part of the city of Bridgeport lying east of the Pequonnock river, was made in November, 1867. The first meeting to consider the subject was held on the 22d of that month at the house of Mr. W. E. Smith, corner of Barnum and William streets. The Rev. B. B. Beardsley, of the First Congregational Church, and Mr. Thomas Lord, of the Second, were present and offered to hire the Bethesda Mission Chapel—now the East Washington avenue Baptist Church—for at least one year, for the use of a Congregational church, should one be formed, and in view of this proposition it was thought advisable to occupy the chapel, and the Rev. Joel H. Linsley, D.D., of Greenwich, was engaged to preach on four Sundays.

The first public services were held November 24, 1867, and on the 16th of December following a meeting was held in the basement of the Bethesda Chapel, at which it was "Resolved, as the sense of this meeting, that it is expedient to

take measures for organizing a Congregational church in East Bridgeport." A council was accordingly called on the 15th of January, 1868, to devise respecting the matter, and if deemed expedient, to assist in the organization of a church. The council when convened voted that it was desirable to form a church, and proceeded in the formal services to that end. The church thus constituted, consisted of thirty-nine members, of whom twenty-three had been dismissed from the First Church, five from the Second Church, five from the church in Newington, three from the church in Westport, two from the church in Monroe, and one from the Chapel street church of New Haven.

On the 19th of March, 1868, Andrew L. Winton and James P. Bishop were elected deacons of the new church, and on the first day of July Mr. John G. Davenport, of Wilton, having supplied the pulpit for three months, and received a unanimous call to its pastorate, was ordained and installed pastor of the church and society.

A site for a house of worship having been purchased on the corner of Park and Barnum streets, the corner-stone of a church edifice was laid November 1, 1870. Services were held in the Bethesda Chapel until the 1st of July, 1871, when the basement of the new edifice was occupied, and on the 17th of October the church, having cost about \$25,000, was dedicated to the worship of Almighty God.

Until the close of the year 1871 the church was under the fostering care of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society, when it became self-supporting.²⁰

The following have served as deacons, each retiring at the end of four, five or six years, the present rule being that each term expires at the end of four years, any one being eligible to reëlection after an interval of one year: Andrew L. Winton, James P. Bishop, Charles M. Minor, David Wooster, Harmon Lane, James P. Bishop, Charles M. Minor, Frederick W. Storrs, David Wooster, James P. Bishop, Charles M. Minor.

The success of this church has been very marked and

²⁰ Historical sketch in the Church Manual, printed in 1881.



continuous to the present time. Mr. John G. Davenport was ordained its pastor July 1, 1868, and labored with much success until the summer of 1881, when he was dismissed to accept a call to the Second Congregational Church of Waterbury, where he was installed November 9, 1881. His successor was the Rev. George S. Thrall, who was installed in October, 1881, and after nearly three years of very acceptable service was dismissed, at his own request, on account of ill health.

The Rev. Frederick E. Hopkins, the present pastor, was installed March 26, 1884, and the prosperity of the church is continued. During the summer of 1885 an addition was made to the church edifice and considerable changes in the audience room, at a cost of about \$2,500.

Olivet Church (Congregational).—About the year 1866 a mission Sunday school was commenced by members of the First Congregational Church and others in the northern part of the city. The school met at first in the upper story of No. 114 North Washington avenue, afterwards at Olivet Hall, upon the corner of Grand street. After some time the school developed into the church now known as Olivet Congregational Church, which was formally organized by a council convened for the purpose, November 16, 1870, and on December 14, 1870, the Rev. DeForest B. Dodge was ordained pastor, and he resigned October 11, 1871, and letters of dismission were granted to forty-nine members of this church to join him in forming a new ecclesiastical body. His successors as the pastors of Olivet Church have been: the Rev. S. Hopkins Emory, April, 1872; the Rev. Allen Clark, September, 1874; the Rev. John S. Wilson, August, 1879. The building now used by the society, on the corner of Main street and North avenue, was completed and occupied for worship December 24, 1876. It cost, including the site, about \$3,500. The Rev. S. D. Gaylord became pastor of this church November 8, 1882, and died in office December 31, 1884. Mr. Edwin R. Holden, of Yale Divinity School, commenced the supply of the pulpit in March, 1885, and was ordained pastor June 9, 1885. This church has received assistance largely from the First Congregational Church and

to some extent from other churches, for many years. It is under the care and aid of the Connecticut Home Missionary Society.

The Colorado Street Chapel is located in the western part of the city. About the end of February, 1884, a mission Sunday school was commenced under the auspices of the First Presbyterian Church, which at the end of the year they relinquished, and in May, 1885, it became a branch of the Sunday school of the First Congregational Church, under the charge of an assistant superintendent. The school met at first in an unoccupied store on State street, then in a cottage on Howard street, but the Congregational church decided at once to build a chapel, and land on Colorado street was purchased on the 11th of May, and a building erected. This was done by the Rev. C. R. Palmer and Col. Charles H. Russell, acting for the standing committee of the church. This chapel was completed September 8th and dedicated September 13th, with appropriate services. It was occupied by the Sabbath school from that date. As soon as a gas pipe had been laid through the street, so that the building could be lighted, services were held on Sabbath evenings, and these have continued until the present time. Until January 1, 1886, the pulpit was supplied by various gentlemen, under the direction of Mr. Palmer. From that date Mr. Robert W. Sharp became the stated supply. He is a member of the senior class in Yale Divinity School, to graduate in May next. The chapel has been conveyed by the builders to the First Congregational Church (an incorporated body), in the expectation that it will be conveyed ultimately to a religious society at the west end. It is valued at \$4,200, with its contents.

Mr. James L. Harlem was the original superintendent of the school, when it was in Presbyterian hands, and has been continued in office by the Congregationalists. The success of it is largely due to the energy and enthusiasm which he has displayed from the beginning.

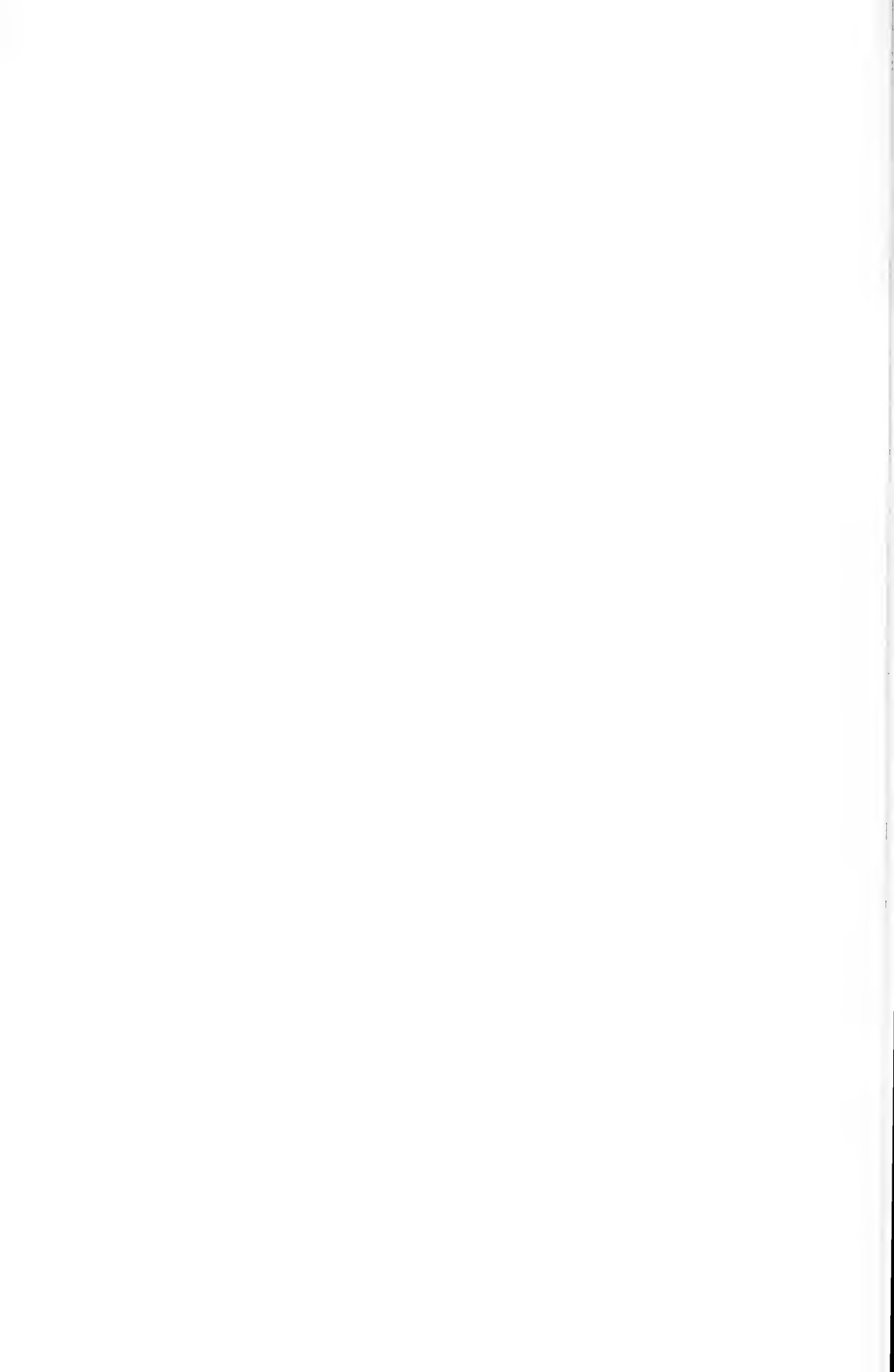
The First Baptist Church in Bridgeport was constituted September 20, 1837, with thirty-nine members. At that time the population of the city was about three thousand, and

the only Baptist church then within ten miles was at Stratfield, three miles distant, which was under the pastoral care of the Rev. James H. Linsley, who resided in Stratford. There were but three or four Baptists residing in the city, one of whom, Miss Hannah Nichols, a devoted and active member of the Stratfield church, about the year 1835 proposed the purchase of land upon which to erect a church in the future. There were three brothers, named Whitney, also members of the Stratfield church, residing about a mile from the city, who had frequently consulted together, and with Miss Nichols, the Rev. Mr. Linsley, and others, upon the practicability of establishing a Baptist church in Bridgeport. They were all waiting for a providential opening to enable them to accomplish that object, when the way was opened, sooner than they expected, by the offer of the Episcopal society to sell their church edifice, on the corner of State and Broad streets, for \$3,650. Mr. Linsley circulated the subscription paper until he secured \$3,000, and paid it to the Episcopal society, and a deed was received August 8, 1835. During this time a meeting was called and on July 24, 1835, a Baptist society was organized, composed of six members, namely: Benjamin Wakeman, Raymond, Roswell, Bennett Whitney, and two other persons whose names are not known.

It was expected that the Rev. Mr. Linsley would accept the pastorate, but failing health compelled him to relinquish preaching, and the services of the Rev. Wm. W. Evarts, then a student in Madison University, were temporarily secured. Public worship commenced in the church April 23, 1837, but five weeks afterwards Mr. Evarts returned to his studies, and the church being unable to procure a permanent pastor, public worship was discontinued until the latter part of 1838, when the Rev. James W. Eaton, of Boston, became the first settled minister of the church, and thus continued for two and a half years, laboring faithfully and zealously until March 26, 1840, when he removed to Springfield, Mass. During his ministry the church prospered and increased its membership from 39 to 106. On the 18th of September, 1840, a unanimous call was extended to the Rev. Daniel Harwington, of Fort Ann, N. Y., and he became pastor of the church on the 3d of

the following month. He resigned October 16, 1842, the church having then 123 members. The next pastor was the Rev. William Smith, of Camden, N. J., who was settled here Nov. 21, 1842, and remained until July 8, 1845, during which time the church suffered severely by many of its members embracing the teachings of Millerism; but toward the close of his ministry many new converts were added to the church, through the labors of the Rev. Jacob Knapp.

The church was without a pastor from that time until January 3, 1846, when the Rev. William Reid was settled, after having previously occupied the pulpit for two or three months, and he continued in the pastorate for more than eight years, closing his labors May 28, 1854. At this time the number of members was reported to be 225. During this ministry the house of worship was repaired and the church debt liquidated, but towards the close of his service a division arose among its members which resulted, afterwards, in the formation of the second Baptist church of Bridgeport. After the resignation of Mr. Reid, June 1, 1854, the church extended a call to the Rev. J. R. Storrs, of New York, who accepted it, but after supplying the pulpit a few Sundays, resigned. A call was then extended to the Rev. W. C. Richards, who accepted, but resigned without entering upon his pastoral duties. The Rev. A. G. Palmer, D.D., then became the pastor of the church, and the formation of the second Baptist church, which now took place, greatly enfeebled the church and discouraged the new pastor. He commenced his pastorate October, 1855, and resigned September 27, 1857. The Rev. J. L. Hodge, D.D., succeeded him and labored for the church three years, commencing in November, 1857. During his ministry a new house of worship, commodious and substantial, was erected, and the church was placed in a better position for prosperity. Dr. Hodge labored earnestly, not only in his regular ministrations, but to bring about a union of the two churches, and to complete the new edifice. After the removal of the Rev. Dr. Hodge the church extended a call to the Rev. A. McGregor Hopper, D.D., who had just closed his labors with the Baptist church at Auburn, N. Y. He accepted the call and commenced his pastorate in March,



1861. Soon after the settlement of Dr. Hopper the second church disbanded and most of its members returned to the first church. Through the efforts of Dr. Hopper the debt remaining on the new edifice was paid, and he found much success in his work. The membership was increased to 331. Dr. Hopper resigned September 1, 1877, the Rev. M. H. Pogson became the settled pastor January 30, 1878, and labored with much success until January 2, 1884, when he resigned to accept a pastorate in New York City. The Rev. Wm. V. Garner was settled as pastor in this church June 4, 1884, being the present minister. The deacons of this church are: W. E. Payson, M. E. Morris, Albert Wisner and Louis Skinner. The present membership is 364.

The Washington Avenue Baptist Church was organized January 30, 1874, with forty-seven members, the Rev. C. W. Ray being the first pastor. The price paid for the church edifice and lot, which fronts on Washington Park, and originally belonged to the Bethesda Mission Sunday school, was \$10,000, and about \$3,500 additional, were expended in repairs and improvements. The Rev. Charles Coleman was pastor some years, but resigned in 1885. The Rev. W. M. Ingersoll is the present pastor, and the deacons are: P. J. Black, C. W. Scarrit, J. H. Gunn, and C. W. Beers.

St. Paul's Church (Episcopal), was organized June 4, 1858, at the house of William H. Noble, on Stratford avenue, and the Rev. G. S. Coit, D.D., of St. John's Church, was chosen rector. The Sunday school met, at first, in the coal office of D. W. Thompson, near the east end of the Centre Bridge, afterwards in rooms over a store upon the corner of Crescent avenue and East Main street. The Rev. N. S. Richardson, D.D., was the first settled pastor of this parish, his ministry beginning in January, 1868. The corner-stone of St. Paul's Church, a handsome stone building upon Kosuth street, fronting Washington Park, was laid by Bishop Williams, October 6, 1868; the edifice was dedicated and occupied for worship July 29, 1869, but not consecrated until May 18, 1880. It cost about thirty thousand dollars. Dr. Richardson, in addition to parochial duties, was editor of the



"Church Guardian," a newspaper published in New York City, the Rev. George S. Pine assisting him in the care of the parish. The other pastors have been Rev. M. Clark, Rev. James O. Drum, and the incumbent, Rev. Mildridge Walker.

The Church of the Redeemer (Universalist), was organized in 1850, and the brown stone edifice on Fairfield avenue, near Broad street, originally known as the Church of our Saviour, but now called the Church of the Redeemer, was dedicated near the close of the following year. The Rev. Olympia Brown—afterwards Mrs. Olympia Brown Willis—was pastor of this church from 1869 to 1875. The Rev. John Lyon,²¹ the present pastor, was settled here December 3, 1876. The cost of the house of worship, including the site, was \$34,000. The trustees of this church are: P. T. Barnum, James Staples, Jerome Orcutt, G. W. Longstaff, Benjamin Fletcher, Albert R. Lacey.

Public Schools.

The inhabitants in that part of Fairfield which afterwards became Pequonnock had established a school as early as 1678, and petitioned the court to release them from paying school rates at Fairfield village. At that time the inhabitants in the Stratford part of Pequonnock sent their children to the Pembroke school at Old Mill, and thus the schools continued until the Stratfield society was established in 1691, when it took charge of all school interests within its boundaries.²² A school house, probably the second, was built in 1703, near the junction of the present Park avenue and Pequonnock street. Among the first teachers of those times was William Rogers, whose agreement with the committee, Samuel Hubbell and Benjamin Fayerweather, made in 1710, is still extant. A noted master after this, for many years, was John Wheeler, whose salary in 1736 for teaching a summer school was £63. The second school was formed in 1738, and the house built near the present Toilsome Hill school house in Fairfield. In 1766 the Stratfield society was divided into three districts, called the North, Middle and South.

²¹ See biographical sketch of Mr. Lyon.

²² See page 8 of this book.

The schools continued to be managed by the committees chosen annually by the parish until 1796, when a school society was formed in accordance with a law enacted the previous year, which provided that the interest on moneys received from the sale of the lands of the "Western Reserve should be paid school societies respectively." These lands were sold for \$1,200,000, which formed the foundation of the present State school fund. This society continued until 1856, when, with the other school societies in the State, it was abolished and its property and obligations transferred to the town. In 1801 there were five districts, called Bridgeport, Old South, Island Brook, Toilsome and North.

In 1841 authority was given by the State to the Stratfield society to maintain a school exclusively for colored children. Such a school was organized by the Bridgeport district, which occupied a building on Gregory street until 1871, when the school was transferred to a room in a wing of the Prospect street school house, which had recently been built. This was continued as a separate ungraded school until the fall of 1876, when the pupils were placed in their proper grades in the different rooms of the same building.

In 1858 the Bridgeport district, after an exciting discussion, voted to abolish the bills for tuition, or "rate bills," as they were called. This was ten years before the law was enacted by the State making it compulsory upon all the towns to support free schools.

When Bridgeport was incorporated as a town in 1821 there were two school districts in the territory east of the Pequonnock river. The northern one, called Pembroke, was established in 1717,²³ the house being erected some years later on Old Mill Green, where one still stands, and is in use. The other district was called New Pasture Point, and built its school house in 1796. In 1859 it erected the brick building on Nichols street, which is still in use.

In 1870 the Black Rock district was transferred from Fairfield to Bridgeport.

Some of the above districts were divided and new ones

²³ See page 280 of History of Stratford.

formed at different times, so that in 1876 there were eleven school districts in the town of Bridgeport.

During the year 1875 Mr. Henry T. Shelton published several articles in the "Standard" in favor of consolidating the public schools. These articles awakened a general interest in the subject, which was discussed and so agitated that, although there was great opposition to the measure, yet the town of Bridgeport, at its annual meeting April 3, 1876, voted to consolidate its eleven district schools under one government, by a majority of 172 votes in a total of 3,998 cast; and on Tuesday, April 11, 1876, the following named persons were elected a school committee: Andrew Burke, James Staples, Frederick W. Zingsen, Henry T. Shelton, James C. Loomis, Daniel H. Sterling, Augustus H. Abernethy, Edward Sterling, George W. Bacon, Joseph D. Alvord, David Ginnand, Julius S. Hanover. These persons met and organized under the name and title of the "Board of Education." They divided themselves into three classes, the terms of office of the first four to expire in one year, the next four in two years, and the next four in four years. They elected James C. Loomis, president; Daniel H. Sterling, vice-president; Henry T. Shelton, secretary, and subsequently, Henry M. Harrington, superintendent. In the practical working of the new system it was found at the end of the first year that the money expended was more than \$10,000 less per year than under the old system.

On the first day of March, 1877, the first death of a member of the board occurred, as seen by the following record:

"As co-laborer with the late Hon. Daniel H. Sterling, vice-president and chairman of the finance committee of the Board of Education, we desire to testify to his earnest and thorough work with us in the advancement of public schools, and herewith express our high appreciation of his valuable counsel and advice from our organization until the present time." It is also recorded that on the 11th day of July, 1877, the resignation of Joseph D. Alvord, on account of ill health, was accepted with sincere regrets.

During the first year of consolidation the establishment of the public high school was another of the important ad-

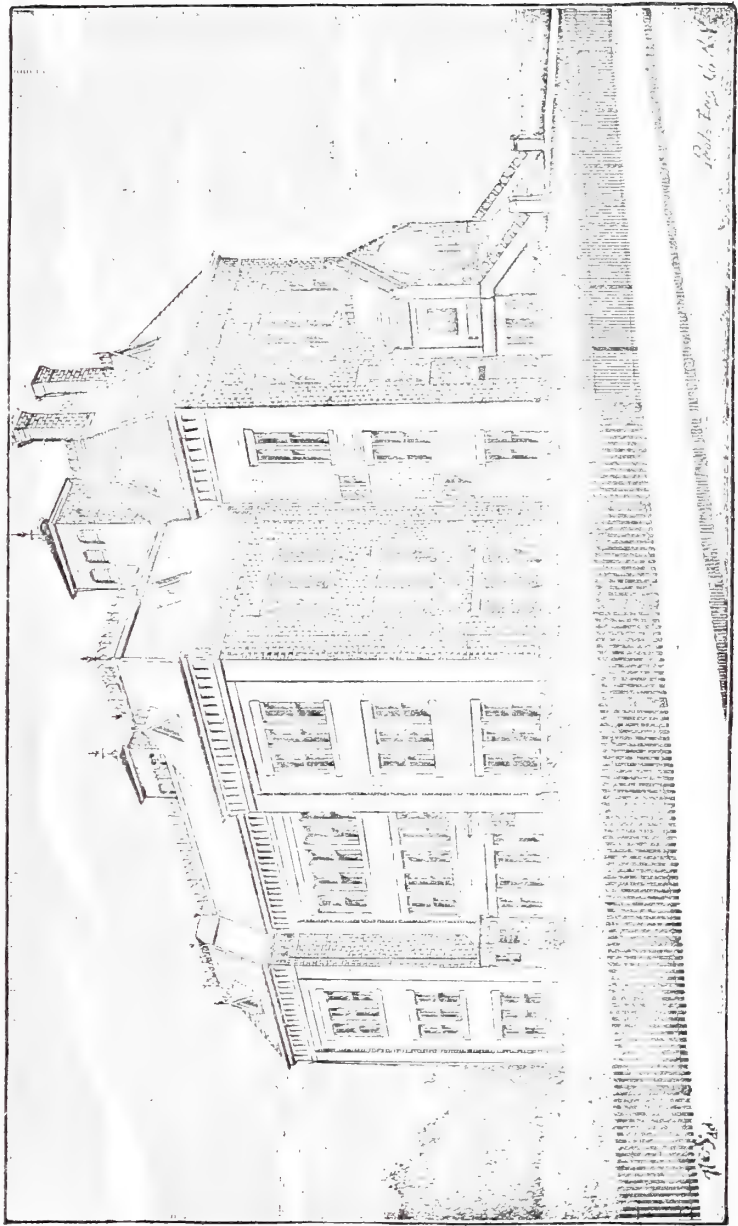


vances made. The adjustment of the financial interests between the districts and the town was the most difficult part of the work. This was done by placing all the accounts in the hands of a committee consisting of R. B. Lacey, M. B. Beardsley, and James King, as auditors, whose exhaustive report became the basis of a full and satisfactory settlement.

On March 5, 1877, Edward W. Marsh was elected in place of Daniel H. Sterling, deceased, and on September 16, 1877, another memorial entry was made on the records: "Death has again visited our board during the year and removed the first president, the Hon. James C. Loomis, one of the warmest friends of education in the State, and member of the State Board of Education at the time of his death. His memory we will ever cherish, remembering his worth to us, and tendering our warmest sympathy to the widow, who, more than any other, is bereaved."

On August 13, 1877, Daniel N. Morgan succeeded J. D. Alvord, resigned, and on October 8th of the same year David M. Read succeeded J. C. Loomis, deceased, for the remaining portion of the year. At the annual election in April, 1878, the Rev. Thomas J. Synnott was elected for three years, and Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler for one year, to fill a vacancy.

On June 21, 1877, Island Brook school house was burned and the present brick structure was immediately erected on the old site. On November 12, 1877, Julius S. Hanover was elected president, and F. W. Zingsen, vice-president. Edward Sterling resigned March 12, 1879, on account of business engagements, and the board made the following entry: "Verily! in him we have lost a co-laborer—a member of the board since its organization—whom at all times we have found true to the great and important duty of educating the youth of his native city." George C. Waldo was elected in place of Mr. Sterling for the balance of the year; and during the summer of that year the new heating apparatus was put into the Prospect school building, and a training school for teachers was established. On October 27, 1879, Edward W. Marsh was elected secretary of the board. At the spring election of 1880, Peter W. Wren and George C. Waldo were elected for three years, and following them the following persons have



BRIDGEPORT HIGH SCHOOL. ERECTED IN 1882.

been elected, most of them to serve three years: Rev. Caspar Brunner, Frederick Hurd, Henry Cowd, Warren W. Porter, Marshall E. Morris, Emory F. Strong, Morris B. Beardsley, Thomas F. Martin, John H. Colgan.

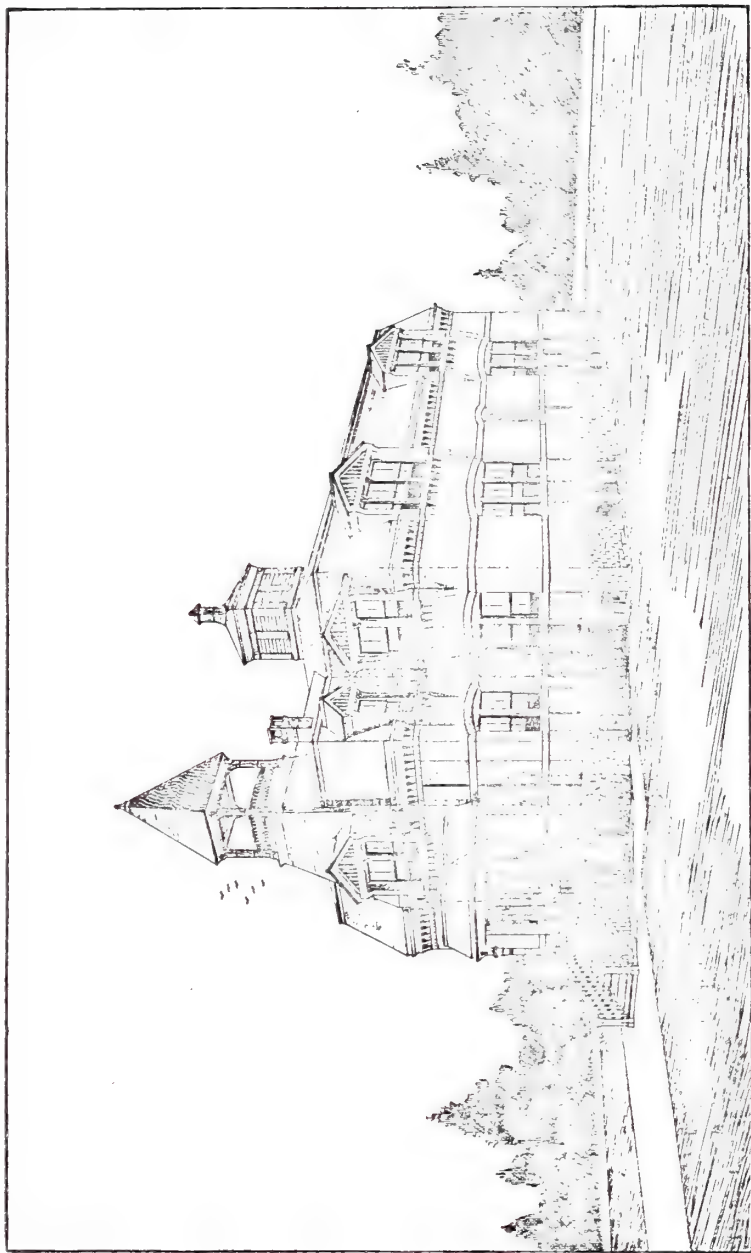
The completion of the high school building, on Congress street, in October, 1882, and its opening for school purposes, was the marked educational event of the year. Its novel plan for heating and ventilating was a departure from the commonly accepted theories, and its practical utility has been demonstrated during the four years since, as the best in the State, if not in the nation. The building has been visited by experts from all parts of the country, and the plan of heating and ventilation has been adopted by school boards, not only in this State, but in Vermont, Massachusetts, and New York. It was built under the supervision of a committee chosen on the part of the town and one from the Board of Education. These committees were identical and consisted of the following persons: Julius S. Hanover, Nathaniel Wheeler, Edward W. Marsh, and George C. Waldo. At the expiration of E. W. Marsh's term in 1884, he declined a reelection.

The decease of the Rev. Thomas J. Synnot, pastor of the St. Augustine Catholic Church, April 30, 1884, was noticed by the following: "The Board of Education recognize in the death of the Rev. Thomas J. Synnot a severe loss to the cause of education and one which it will be difficult to repair,—a man of education, tact and ability, and although a clergyman, still a man without prejudice or bigotry, his was a happy and tolerant disposition. Being pastor of one church in this city for more than thirty years, he has so borne himself through this long period as to endear himself to the entire community. As a mark of respect and esteem the members of the board will attend his funeral."

During the summer of 1883 the Washington school house, on Pembroke street, was repaired, new heating apparatus placed in it, and in the autumn the new school building on the Newtown turnpike was first occupied for school purposes.

Another memorandum is made of the departed: "When this Board of Education was organized in April, 1876, Augustus H. Abernethy, M.D., was elected a member, and con-





PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS, NOS. 2 AND 9. ERECTED IN 1884.



tinued such until his decease on the evening of November 9, 1884. We make this tribute to his memory on our records: Resolved, That in obedience to the will of him who doeth all things for the best, we bow in humble submission, with the feeling that this community, and especially the cause of education in our city, has sustained a great loss; that as an honorable, upright and highly esteemed citizen and member of this board, we will ever cherish his memory."

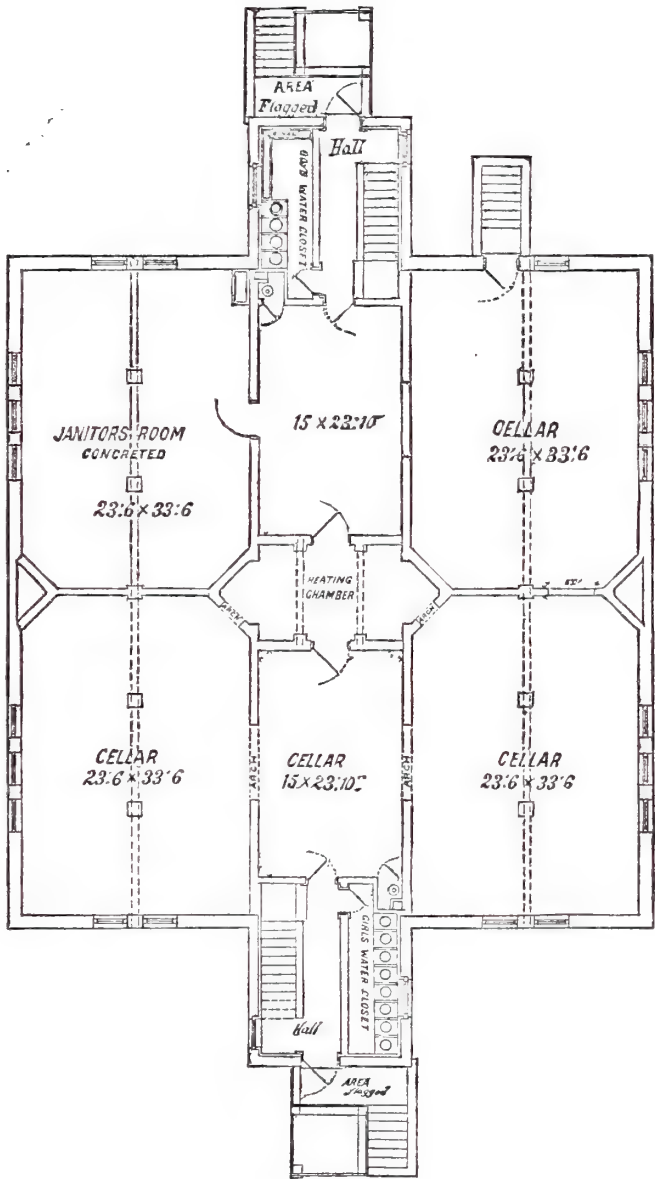
Two new school buildings were occupied at the commencement of the fall term of 1884, one on Myrtle avenue—school No. 2—the other on North avenue—school No. 9—corner of Oak street, which have commended themselves as models of convenience and adaptation to school purposes. They are warmed and ventilated by the same plan as the high school building, except that the air is warmed by furnaces instead of steam coils. The internal arrangement of these buildings is regarded as very advantageous and commendable. See cuts on the two following pages.

In January, 1885, the Hon. P. T. Barnum donated \$1,000, the income to be expended in the purchase of two gold medals, to be presented each year to the two students in the high school who shall write and publicly pronounce the two best English orations.²⁴

²⁴ Sometimes it is said that the higher grades of schools are maintained for the benefit of the wealthy classes rather than for the common people. In order to ascertain how far this view is correct, as applied to this high school, a careful examination has been made, which shows the following occupations represented among the parents of the pupils:

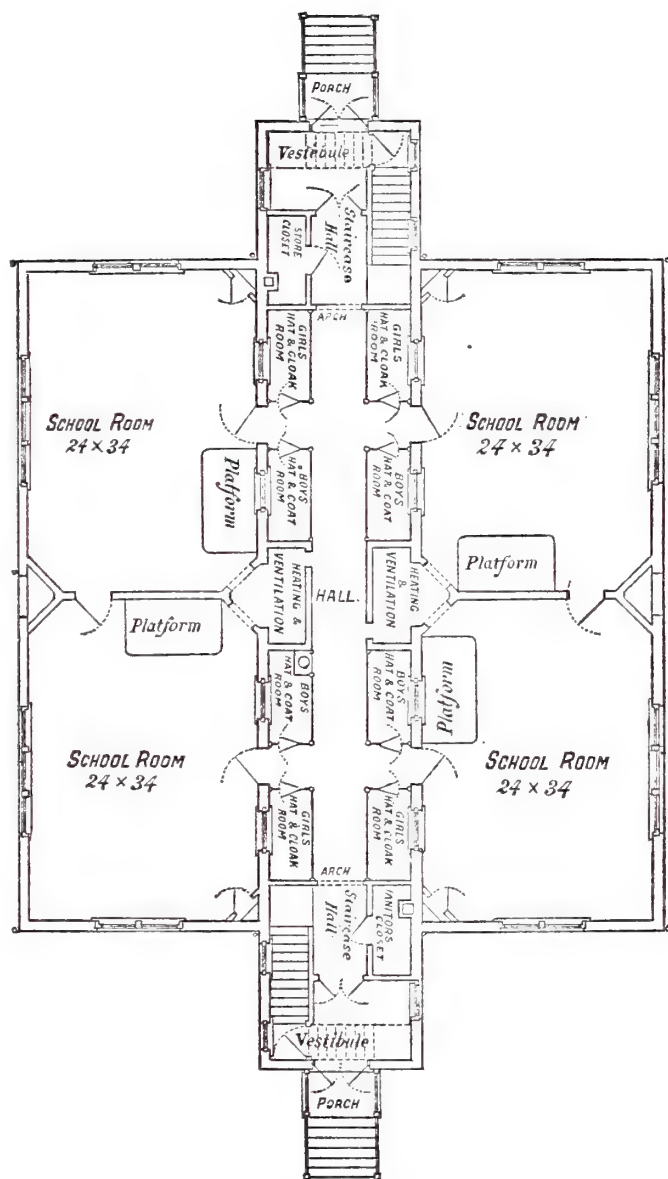
Mechanics	44	Farmers	2
Merchants	19	Policemen	1
Manufacturers	13	Government officer	1
Clerks and salesmen	11	Town officer	1
Laborers	9	City officer	1
Supts. or foremen of factory	7	Bank officer	1
Contractors	4	Doctor	1
Retired from business	4	Keeper of boarding house	1
Clergymen	4	Photographer	1
Builders	3	Undertaker	1
Teachers	3	Coachman	1
Laborers	3	Truckman	1
Printers	2		

In addition to the above there were the children of twenty-seven widows in attendance, making in all one hundred and sixty-seven families represented in the school. In other words, this high school fairly represents all classes in the city.



BASEMENT PLAN OF NOS. 2 AND 9.





PLAN OF FIRST AND SECOND STORIES OF NOS. 2 AND 9.



The rooms for the accommodation of the Board of Education are now in the United Bank Building, corner of Main and Bank streets, they being very pleasant and commodious.

The population of the town of Bridgeport—including the city—as estimated by school enumeration, was in 1876-7, 24,745, and in January, 1886, 39,006. In 1876 there were 78 teachers, and in 1886, 120.

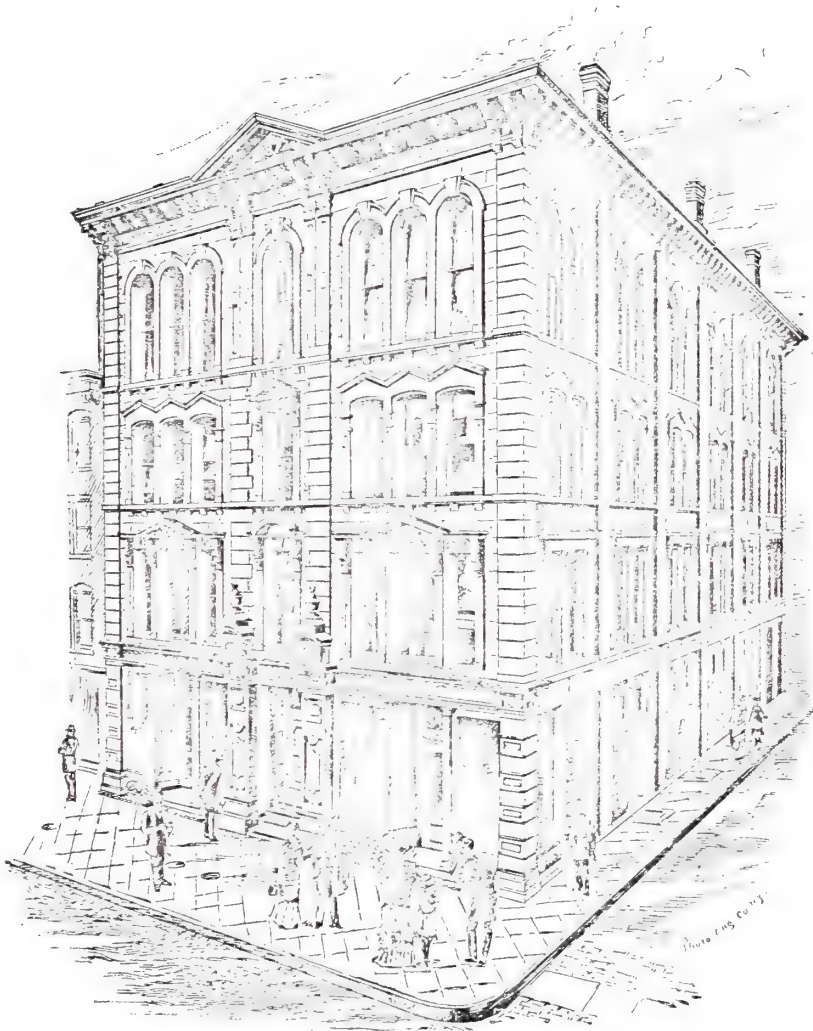
The cost per scholar of maintaining the Bridgeport schools, compared with others in the State as reported by the State Board of Education for the year 1884, is as follows: Hartford, \$34.19; Norwich, \$23.45; New Britain, \$23.35; New Haven, \$22.81; Stamford, \$21.41; Norwalk, \$20.05; Meriden, \$19.65; Waterbury, \$19.52; New London, \$19.33; Danbury, \$19.17; Middletown, \$19.03; Bridgeport, \$15.43.

The officers of the Board of Education for 1885-6 are: Julius S. Hanover, President; Nathaniel Wheeler, Vice-President; Morris B. Beardsley, Secretary. The members of the board are: Peter W. Wren, Henry Cowd, Frederick Hurd, Marshall E. Morris, Morris B. Beardsley, Emory F. Strong, William B. Hincks, Thomas F. Martin, Julius S. Hanover, Nathaniel Wheeler, David Ginand, John H. Colgan. H. M. Harrington, Superintendent of Schools.

The Bridgeport Public Library and Reading Room has acquired a high position in the estimation and care of the citizens of Bridgeport, as the beginning of what they hope to make a large and influential institution of culture in the city. About sixty years ago a boy wrote some brief articles which were printed in a newspaper of Bridgeport, and in them called for a public meeting of citizens for the purpose of establishing a public library. The meeting was held by a few persons, the boy being among them, but he did not at that time let it be known that he wrote the articles and called the meeting. The result of the meeting was that a library was established about, perhaps, a year or two before 1830. This library was continued until about 1855, when it purchased the library of the Calliopean Literary Society of Yale College, which had disbanded, numbering about 1,000 volumes, and the Bridgeport Library Association was estab-



lished December 7, 1857. For many years it was supported as a subscription library, charging a fee for membership and its privileges.



BURROUGHS PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

In 1881 Mr. Clarence Sterling, calling upon Mr. John D. Candee, then editor of the Bridgeport "Standard," requested that the "Standard" would favor the establishing of a free



public library, in accordance with a recent law of the State, granting such libraries to towns and cities, to be supported by a tax on the grand list.²⁵ Mr. Candee cheerfully took up the matter and Mr. Sterling started a petition to the Common Council of the city. Then upon consultation with Hon. D. B. Lockwood, president of the old library association, and others interested in it, that library was offered to the new project upon condition that the debts of the old society, amounting to about \$800, should be assumed by the new society, which was accepted. Upon the matter coming before the Common Council the motion which gave to Bridgeport a free public library was carried with but one dissenting vote, and the Mayor, Hon. John L. Wessels, appointed the following board of officers: W. D. Bishop, President; John D. Candee, Vice-President; Charles Sherwood, Secretary; William B. Hincks, Treasurer; and Frederick Hurd, W. J. Hills, S. S. Blake, and Bernard Winghofer, who held their first meeting July 2, 1881.

By the lamented death of Mr. Winghofer, the removal from the city of Mr. Blake, and the resignation of the Hon. W. D. Bishop, three changes have since taken place in the board. The successors of these gentlemen are A. B. Beers, Patrick Coughlin, and W. D. Bishop, Jr.

The rooms of the old library association, at 440 Main street, were altered and enlarged, and on the 10th of January, 1882, the Bridgeport Public Library and Reading Room opened its doors. The first ticket of membership was issued to P. T. Barnum—occupation, showman—guarantor, James Staples. By the first of June the new library had 3,193 members, and had circulated 36,547 volumes. The difficulties arising from the small number of books were tided over by the gift of a hundred dollars from Mrs. James C. Loomis, and the purchase by the Hon. P. T. Barnum of a thousand dollars worth of the best recent works in science and general literature. The original library hours were from 2 to 10 P. M. daily; but it soon became necessary to open the institution from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. In November, 1882, at the request of

²⁵ Manuscript of J. D. Candee.





Catharine A. Burroughs, Pettengill



many intelligent workingmen, the directors resolved to try the experiment of Sunday opening, hitherto only attempted in the New England States by the public libraries of Boston and Worcester. The change was so greatly appreciated that in 1884 they determined to conduct the library on the "never-closing" system, and the reading room is now open every day in the year.

In January, 1883, Mrs. Catharine A. Pettengill bequeathed to the public library the valuable property known as the Burroughs Building, in order that it might be converted into a permanent home for the institution. The money accruing from the rental of the building has been left to accumulate towards paying for its alteration, and it is hoped that the library will occupy its new quarters by the winter of 1887.

In 1884 the Hon. W. D. Bishop resigned the office of president, and was succeeded by John D. Candee, Esq., who had rendered the library much valuable service as vice-president and member of the book committee. The career of the library has been one of unbroken success. During the year ending July 1, 1885, 91,030 books were circulated for home use, and 15,160 were consulted in the reading room. The present membership is above 7,000. The number of volumes contained in the library is 16,400.²⁶

Officers of the public library for the year 1885: President, John D. Candee; Vice-President, Frederick Hurd; Secretary, Charles Sherwood; Treasurer, William D. Bishop, Jr. The present members of the board of directors are: William D. Bishop, Jr., Frederick Hurd, William J. Hills, William B. Hincks, Charles Sherwood, Alfred B. Beers, David B. Lockwood, John D. Candee, Patrick Caughlin. Librarian, Mrs. Agnes Hills; Assistant Librarian, William J. Hills; Attendants, Theodore F. Crane, Jr., Robert Bruce Nelson.

Rev. Henry Jones, son of Daniel and Rhoda (Mather) Jones, was born in Hartford, Conn., October 15, 1801, graduated at Yale College in the class of 1820, and graduated at Andover Theological Seminary in 1824. He married Eliza

²⁶ Manuscript of William J. Hill.

S. Webster, daughter of Noah Webster, LL.D., September 5, 1825, and was ordained pastor of the second society in Berlin—now the first Congregational society of New Britain—October 12, 1825. He was dismissed at his own request December 19, 1827, and in the following year opened a select school for young ladies at Greenfield, Mass., which he conducted with success nearly ten years.

In 1838 he removed to Bridgeport and erected a cottage he ever afterward occupied on the western slope of Golden Hill. Here he opened a classical school for young men and boys, and continued it with much success as to reputation and income, over thirty years, when he gradually closed his school and ceased active labor.

When he came to Bridgeport he connected himself with the First Congregational Church, of which he remained a valued and useful member until his decease, November 9, 1878. The golden wedding of himself and wife was observed in September, 1875, and was a memorable occasion. His children were: Frances Julia, who married Rev. Thomas H. Beecher; Emily Ellsworth, married Daniel J. Day, died July 23, 1869, leaving one son, Robert Webster Day, the only grandchild; Eliza Webster, died in infancy; Henry Webster, M.D., of Chicago.

Golden Hill Seminary for young ladies and children is located on Golden Hill street, an elevated locality, in the city of Bridgeport; Miss Emily Nelson being the proprietor and principal. Miss Nelson came from New York City, purchased the old homestead of Alfred Bishop, and established her school here in 1880. The school has a first class standing and reputation in every respect, and the principal is highly esteemed by the citizens of Bridgeport.



LEGEND

- A. Assembly
- B. Bank
- C. Canal
- D. Dock
- E. Ferry
- F. Fire
- G. Gas
- H. Hotel
- I. Iron
- J. Jail
- K. Kitchen
- L. Land
- M. Mill
- N. Navy
- O. Office
- P. Prison
- Q. Quay
- R. Road
- S. School
- T. Temple
- U. Union
- V. Village
- W. Warehouse
- X. Water
- Y. Yard
- Z. Zone

Scale of Feet



BRIDGEPORT,

Accuracy Surveyed & delineated

BY

H. I. GARNAM,

1874.

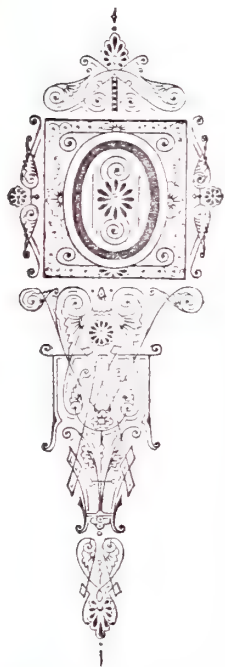


INSERT
OLD-OUT
OR MAP
HERE!



CHAPTER V.

THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT.



VERDRAWN pictures being unseemly in history, and there being no room in this book for mere word paintings, the substantial facts are given as the most agreeable and lasting to a prosperous city.

Bridgeport, as a city, was incorporated by act of the General Assembly in May, 1836, under the name of "*The Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council, and Freemen of the City of Bridgeport.*" By several changes made, the incorporate title now is "The City of Bridgeport," and the title of its authoritative body is "The Common Council of the City of Bridgeport."

The city is located on Long Island Sound, fifty-two miles from New York City, and is a seaport town, with a good harbor. It is built upon a sandy and gravelly soil, and therefore, as well as from all its surroundings, is a healthy locality. It is spread over a large territory, for the number of its inhabitants, and has many square miles of available territory adjoining it on three sides—east, north, and west, for its indefinite expansion. It has three good sized parks within its limits—two of which are remarkably picturesque; its streets are of good width, many of them made more so in appearance by the dwellings standing unusually distant from the streets; and the character and style of the public buildings are more than commonly elegant, and significant of enterprise and taste. A marked feature of its' private buildings is that of double residences with ample space and yards about them, which in the summer time, being ornamented profusely with flowers and shrubbery,



give it the appearance of a city of delightful homes. Another feature of this city is the large number of buildings of extensive manufactures; but these structures are all new and of elegant proportions and styles, so that they ornament rather than detract from the picturesqueness and beauty of the city. In addition, the shore of the Sound, bordering it on the south, without swamp or marsh, and especially as a part of this southern territory of the city consists of the already far-famed Seaside Park; the whole city is one of attractiveness, health, and facility for general industry, enterprise and homes.

The Population of Bridgeport has increased rapidly since it became a city. The late Isaac Sherman, writing about 1860, estimated the number of people residing at different dates in the territory embraced within the city limits of Bridgeport, to be: in 1790, 110 persons; in 1800, 250; in 1810, 550; and in 1820, 840.

The first time the census of Bridgeport was taken separately was in 1810, it having been included in Stratford before that time. Jeremiah W. Beardsley was the enumerator that year, and his return is still preserved. According to this there were 94 heads of families in the borough, and the total population, including a negro slave in the family of Lieut. Salmon Hubbell, was 572. In 1840, Henry Edwards was the enumerator, and returned the number 4,570. In 1850 the late William R. Bunnell took the census, and reported 7,558 inhabitants. The number of colored persons was 286, and of foreigners 1,493, including 1,102 born in Ireland; 188 born in England; 138 in Germany; and 65 in other countries. In 1860, George W. Lewis was enumerator, and the population was 13,299, having almost doubled during the decade. In 1870 the census was taken under the supervision of the late Philo F. Barnum, and showed 19,876 inhabitants, and during the year 1880 it was taken by supervisor W. E. Disbrow, and the population of Bridgeport was 29,153, the number living on the west side of the river being 19,770, and on the east side 9,383; and as estimated by the public school enumeration it was, in January, 1886, 39,000.

If inquiry is made as to what has caused this city to be

what it is, and that, too, in the short space of fifty years—as it is just fifty since it was incorporated—the answer is given, somewhat minutely, under the two general subjects, Railroads and Manufacturing enterprises, for it will be recognized at once that however great the present facilities for freight transportation by water—and they are very advantageous—yet without the railroads the half of the water transportation would never have been wanted, and without the industries the railroads, steamboats, and inhabitants would have a starvation time, so far as this city is concerned.

The Housatonic Railroad.—The enterprise which resulted in the building of this road began in 1835, it being among the earliest roads of the kind in America. Seven years previous the first locomotive had been imported into the country, and only one year before the Boston and Albany, the pioneer road of New England, had been opened for travel.

The interest in railroad projects had become very marked. The Connecticut legislature had given charters in 1832 for the Boston, Norwich and New London, New York and Stonington, and Sharon and Salisbury railroads; in 1833 the Manchester and Hartford, and New Haven roads; in 1835 the Hartford and Springfield, Fairfield County, and the Worcester and Hartford.

The Housatonic road grew out of an enterprise, started in the Housatonic valley in 1822, to build a canal from Saugatuck to New Milford, for which a charter was secured, commissioners appointed, estimates of expenses and a survey made.

On the 23d day of December, 1835, a public meeting was held at Kent, composed of "delegates representing the towns on and near the contemplated route for a railroad from Danbury, through and along the valley of the Housatonic, to Stockbridge, in Massachusetts." Under the direction of officers appointed by that meeting a survey was made by E. H. Broadhead, in the winter of 1835 and 6, from Danbury to Great Barrington, and in the May session of the legislature of 1836, a charter was granted. By this charter there was to be selected one of three lines from Brookfield to tide-water. The decision to be made on this question was important to



Bridgeport, and the inhabitants appreciated it and put forth efforts proportionate.

In the year 1836 Alfred Bishop, of New Jersey, settled in Bridgeport, probably led to this locality at the time for the purpose of engaging in building railroads, and immediately on being established devoted all his energy to the location and construction of the Housatonic Railroad.

In order to have this road terminate at Bridgeport, it was important that a considerable amount of the stock should be taken here, and after individuals had done their utmost enough was not secured. It is possible that this idea first suggested the organization of the borough of Bridgeport into a city. Hence, in May, 1836, a charter was secured for a city, and afterwards the corporation loaned its credit to the railroad company to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars, and in 1838 the city issued coupon bonds, in favor of the railroad, to the amount of fifty thousand dollars more.

This debt of \$150,000 created much excitement when the interest had considerably accumulated, there being no provision for payment. It was found that the city held no property, of account, and the question whether private property was liable in such a case had not been decided in the courts of this State at that time, and therefore a test case was allowed to be brought before the courts for the purpose of deciding this question, and also to make further proceedings in raising the money legal. The court's decision confirmed the claim against private property, and at once a sinking fund was established and the whole amount finally paid; and the full benefit has been already more than realized, for if railroad enterprise had not made the city a central point for business about the time it did, the half of the money now in it would never have come to the city of Bridgeport. It was in consequence of this matter going to court for a decision, that the report of repudiation went abroad, which was without foundation, since it was of the utmost necessity to secure such a decision in order that in the further proceedings the officers of the city might be assured of the legality of their acts.¹

¹ See this matter as explained in the Report of the Board of Trade, 1877, p. 314.





Eng^d by Geo H. Palmer N.Y.

Respectfully yours
A. Bishop



In the starting of the road for a time ex-Governor Gideon Tomlinson acted as president of the company, but at the first regular election, April 5, 1837, the following officers were chosen: William P. Burrall, President; William H. Noble, Secretary; Jesse Sterling, Treasurer; and William P. Burrall, Edwin Porter, Samuel Simons, Stephen Lounsbury, Charles DeForest, of Bridgeport, Anan Hine, Asa Pickett, of New Milford, Alpheus Fuller, of Kent, and Peter Bierce, of Cornwall, were Directors.

The work of building and equipping this road was very great; embarrassments came on, and in 1844 it passed into the hands of a committee of twenty citizens, and for some time was operated under the name of E. Gregory and Company; but after a time preferred stock was issued and a new organization of the company was effected. Its capital stock is \$2,000,000; namely, \$820,000 of old stock and \$1,180,000 preferred. The road now, under the management for a number of years of Hon. William H. Barnum, as president, is a successful, prosperous road. The present officers of this road are: President, Hon. William H. Barnum; Secretary and Treasurer, Charles K. Averill; Directors, William H. Barnum, William D. Bishop, Horace Nichols, A. B. Mygatt, Edward Leavitt, John B. Peck, Charles K. Averill, William E. Downs, D. W. Plumb.

Alfred Bishop, born December 21, 1798, was the son of William and Susannah Bishop, and descendant from the Rev. John Bishop, the second minister of Stamford, Conn. For a time, when quite young, he taught school in his native town. He afterwards settled in New Jersey as a farmer, and while thus employed made personal experiments with his pick ax, shovel, and wheelbarrow, by which he accurately estimated the cost of removing various masses of earth to different distances. In this way he prepared himself for the great work of his life, as a canal and railroad contractor. Among the public works on which he was engaged, and which constitute a lasting monument to his name, are the Morris canal, in New Jersey; the great bridge over the Raritan, at New Brunswick; the Housatonic, Berkshire, Washington and



Saratoga, Naugatuck, and New York and New Haven railroads. But in the midst of his extensive operations, and while forming plans for still greater works, he was taken suddenly ill and died June 11, 1849. At the funeral, which was on June 13th, his pastor, the Rev. Dr. Hewit, preached the sermon, and the Common Council of the city, which had previously passed resolutions of respect concerning his life and labors, attended in a body.

The Housatonic Railroad was projected and chartered before Mr. Bishop came to Bridgeport, but to him belongs much credit for taking the first steps to carry it into practical effect, and as in part the author of the complete system of railway communication now enjoyed by the city of Bridgeport.

Mr. Bishop married Mary, daughter of Ethan Ferris, of Greenwich, Conn., and had three sons, two of whom became prominent as railroad men.

The Naugatuck Railroad was projected by Alfred Bishop, of Bridgeport, who, after consultation with various parties whom he supposed might be interested in the enterprise, brought the subject before the legislature of Connecticut, and a charter was granted in the year 1845, which was amended in 1847 and in 1848. The following persons were named as grantees: Timothy Dwight, of New Haven, Green Kendrick, of Waterbury, Thomas Burlock, of Derby, William P. Burrall, of Bridgeport, Philo Hurd, of Bridgeport, Alfred B. Brittain, of Bridgeport, and George L. Schuyler, of New York.

It was proposed at first to make the road only from Bridgeport to Waterbury, with a capital stock of \$800,000, but afterwards it was extended to Winsted, and the capital increased to \$1,200,000. This amount of stock was afterwards increased to \$1,500,000, to furnish the road with engines, cars, coaches, and equipments. An organization of the company was effected in February, 1848, and a contract made with Alfred Bishop to build the road complete, and receive in pay \$800,000 cash and \$400,000 in bonds. The first officers of the road were: Timothy Dwight, President; Ira Sherman, Secretary; and Horace Nichols, Treasurer; the last of these still holds the same office.



The profile and survey of the road having been made by engineer R. B. Mason, was presented to the directors March 14, 1848, and was adopted, and in the following April the work was commenced. The contract stipulated that the road should be built in the most thorough and durable manner, with a heavy H-rail, similar to that used in relaying the Housatonic road, which that company had just completed.

In constructing the road no particular change of the route was made, except at the south end, where, instead of crossing the Housatonic river at Derby and coming direct to Bridgeport, it was continued on the east side of the river, as at present, to the New York and New Haven railroad, and on that the Naugatuck trains run to Bridgeport. On the 11th of June the road was opened to Waterbury, on the 23d of July to Plymouth, and on the 24th of September to Winsted. Mr. Bishop, the contractor, having died in June the completion was thereby delayed a few days.

The chief office of this road is located in Bridgeport, corner of Main street and South avenue, and their principal shops and freight depot not far from it.

Its present officers are: William D. Bishop, of Bridgeport, President; Horace Nichols, of Bridgeport, Secretary and Treasurer; George W. Beach, of Waterbury, Superintendent; Samuel Wilmot, of Bridgeport, Auditor. The directors are: William D. Bishop, of Bridgeport, J. G. Wetmore, of Winsted, A. L. Dennis, of Newark, N. J., W. D. Bishop, Jr., of Bridgeport, Joel B. Sperry, of New Haven, J. B. Robertson, of New Haven, R. M. Bassett, of Derby, F. J. Kingsbury, of Waterbury, David W. Plumb, of Shelton, all of Connecticut except one.

The Naugatuck enjoys the reputation of being one of the best managed roads in the country. It has neither floating nor bonded debt, pays all bills monthly, and its stock is in demand at a high premium.

The tables of revenue of this road for the last nineteen years give matter of interest, as well as satisfaction to stockholders. In 1866 the revenue amounted to \$494,026.47; but the next year it was a little less, then it rose gradually until in 1871 it was \$624,761.86; then decreasing a little year by



year, it reached in 1877-8, \$477,834.04; but again it took the rising scale, and climbing more rapidly than before, it culminated in 1881-2, at \$714,898.01; then once more declining a little it stands in 1884-5, at \$651,242.26. The balance sheet of the road for the year ending September 30, 1885, shows dividends to have been made during the fiscal year to the amount of \$200,000.

Since an enterprise of this kind is largely dependent upon the few men who manage and take care of it, a few sketches of those who supervised and served it longest upon the road, will be appropriate here.

Alfred Bishop, the projector and builder, departed this life just before the completion of the road, yet he did a great work for the Naugatuck valley, the city of Bridgeport, and the State of Connecticut. A further record of him may be seen on page 697 of this book.

Rev. Ethan Ferris Bishop, son of Alfred Bishop, was president of the road a number of years. He was educated at Yale and took his master's degree at Trinity College, Hartford, was ordained priest in the Protestant Episcopal Church, served some years as rector of the Church of the Nativity, of Bridgeport, and after much suffering with ill health a number of years, departed to his final rest on the 7th of December, 1883. See page 657.

Hon. William D. Bishop, son of Alfred Bishop, was graduated at Yale College in 1849, and represented his district in Congress in 1859-61. He was president of the New York and New Haven Railroad some years, and continues to be one of its active and influential directors. He is now, and has been since the decease of his brother, president of the Naugatuck Railroad, and one of the most active and influential railroad men of the State. He was a representative from Bridgeport in 1871, and State senator in 1877 and 1878.

George Wells Beach, son of Sharon Y. Beach, of Humphreysville, now Seymour, received in his native village an education fitting him for the duties of an active business life. In 1850, soon after the completion of the railroad, he entered

the service of the company at Humphreysville, as a clerk, with the understanding that he should fill any position that might be assigned him on the road. In 1851 he was assigned the position of second clerk in the office at Waterbury, where, in the performance of various duties, he soon became acquainted with the management and work of the entire road. In 1855 he was appointed agent at the Naugatuck station, and in 1857 he was made conductor of the morning and evening passenger train, and while serving in this capacity he took charge of the general ticket agency, thus becoming still more familiar with the whole business of the road. In 1861 he was made agent at Waterbury, where he remained seven years.

In 1868 the office of superintendent of the Naugatuck Railroad became vacant by the death of Charles Waterbury, and Mr. Beach was appointed to that position and therein he still remains, much to the credit of himself and the road, with the general respect and esteem of the railroad officials and the general public. His headquarters are at the office of the road at Bridgeport, but his residence is in Waterbury. Thirty-five years he has had an active, and most of the time, a prominent part in the management of the road.

Alfred Beers, son of Jonathan Beers, of Canaan, Conn., became conductor of the Naugatuck Railroad in March, 1851, and served in that capacity thirty-two years, when his nervous system having become prostrated, he retired from active service, the road continuing his regular salary. He is a resident of Bridgeport and Senior Warden of St. Paul's Church. His son, Leander J. Beers, is conductor on the New York and New England Railroad, and has been some years; his son, C. W. Beers, is in the U. S. mail service in Bridgeport, and another son, Alfred B. Beers, is Judge of the Bridgeport City Court.

Amos S. Beers, of Canaan, Conn., brother to Alfred, above, became conductor on this road in 1855, and continues the same at the present time, having thus served the road in this capacity over thirty years. He resides in Bridgeport.

Other conductors have served on this road as follows: Frederick Gregory, twelve years; A. A. Tolles, six years;



Edward Segears, as extra conductor, twenty-five years; S. E. Granger, twenty years; L. McDermitt, twenty-three years; Frank Scott, five years; F. E. Dickerman, on the Waterbury and Watertown Railroad, two years; and T. Daily, three years.

The following engineers have served on this road: Henry Abell, thirty years; E. L. Downs, seventeen; Edward Crowley, fifteen; Bruce Lane, fifteen; Frank Hubbell, thirteen; Thomas Trueman, four; Wilbur Sherman, six; B. Baker, eight; Wilson Burns, six; Fred Baker, four; George Hull, eleven; Charles Tomlin, four.

New York and New Haven Railroad.—In the year 1844 an act of incorporation was obtained from the legislature of Connecticut by Joseph Sheffield, of New Haven, Anson G. Phelps, of New York, and others, giving them permission to build a railroad, not exceeding six rods in width, from New Haven to the western boundary of the State, and to transport persons and property upon it by the power of steam, or any other mechanical force, by animals, or "by any combination of these which said company may choose." On May 11, 1846, the legislature of the State of New York granted the same persons permission to extend their proposed railroad from the Connecticut line to connect with the Harlem road at Williams' Bridge, N. Y.

The first stockholders' meeting was held at New York City, May 19, 1846, when the following board of directors was elected: Robert Schuyler, Anson G. Phelps, Elihu Townsend, Morris Ketchum, of the city of New York; Henry J. Sanford, of Stamford; William P. Burrall, Stephen Tomlinson, of Bridgeport; Joseph E. Sheffield, of New Haven; F. R. Griffin, of Guilford. At a subsequent meeting of the directors Robert Schuyler was chosen president, and William P. Burrall, secretary.

Preliminary surveys having been made by Alexander C. Twining, a contract was made with Messrs. Alfred Bishop and Sidney G. Miller to build the road from the depot of the Hartford and New Haven Railroad, in the city of New Haven, to Williams Bridge; the work to be commenced by the first day of December, 1846, and to be completed by



August 1, 1848. The contract price was two and a quarter millions of dollars, payable as follows: "cash, in installments, as work is completed, \$1,350,000; and \$900,000 in stock." The contractors were each to receive, also, a free pass for the term of their natural lives.

The civil engineer, Roswell B. Mason from New Jersey, made the final surveys of the Housatonic Railroad, and of the Berkshire to the Boston and Albany Railroad, and was Superintendent of the Housatonic from 1840 to 1845. He then served as engineer in the construction of the New Haven and New York, and the Naugatuck roads. In 1850 he went to Chicago and for a number of years was connected with the land department of the Illinois Central Railroad. He was Mayor of Chicago at the time of the great fire in that city.

Trains commenced running from Bridgeport to Fairfield September 2, 1848, but though finished from New Haven to Westport in October, 1848, it was not until January 1, 1849, that the road was fully open for travel over its entire length. This was on only a single track. In May, 1851, an additional track was laid, and the capital stock was increased to three million dollars.

Two severe disasters have occurred in its history: the first was the terrible accident and loss of life at Norwalk bridge, May 9, 1853, and the second the fraudulent overissue of stock by its first president, Robert Schuyler, which came to light in July, 1854; but with these exceptions, it has had a career of almost uninterrupted prosperity. Much of this success is due to the ability of the Hon. William D. Bishop, of Bridgeport, who was its president from May 17, 1867, to March 1, 1879, when ill health compelled him to resign. He is still a member of the board of directors. Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler has also been a director from May 19, 1870, to the present time. Mr. John T. Moody and Mr. William H. Stevenson, of this city, are connected with the road—the former as superintendent a number of years, and the latter is now the superintendent of the New York and New Haven division, having been, previously, superintendent of the Shore Line division.

In the summer of 1872 the New York and New Haven road was consolidated with the Hartford and New Haven



road, and in June of the following year the work of equipping it throughout was completed. The consolidated road now leases the Boston and New York Air Line and the Shore Line. The capital stock of the consolidated road is \$15,500,000, and its debt a little over \$400,000.

The Parallel Railroad.—Efforts to obtain a charter to build a railroad from New York to New Haven had been defeated in the legislature by the New York and New Haven Railroad, while the latter was seeking to consolidate with the New Haven, Hartford and Springfield road. Not being able to obtain the legislation necessary without the aid of the friends of the Parallel, a compromise, the general railroad law, was passed in 1871.

Under that law the New York and Eastern Railroad company was organized in February, 1874. In their efforts before the legislature the same year to obtain permission to bridge the Housatonic river, they were defeated, and the fact was demonstrated that it was impossible, if there was any opposition, to build a railroad under that law. The present New York and Connecticut Air Line Railway company was organized in October, 1881. During the interval of the legislature the friends of the enterprise were not idle, but steadily laying the foundation, through public sentiment and otherwise, for certain amendments to the law that would remove the difficulty, which was accomplished in 1882. Immediately following this action of the legislature this company located its road and presented the plan to the railroad commissioners, which was accepted by them in November, 1883. On the 24th of January, 1884, the work of construction was commenced within the limits of the city of Bridgeport, by Mr. Henry R. Parrott, who threw out the first shovelful of gravel in the cut at Lindley street. Mr. Parrott is president of the board of directors, has devoted more time to the enterprise than any other member, and to him is due, in a large degree, the present favorable position of the company.

The following persons constitute the board of directors:

S. E. Olmstead, deceased, E. R. Lockwood and George R. Cowles, of Norwalk; A. L. Winton, H. R. Parrott, of Bridgeport; W. T. Minor, of Stamford; Ira G. Briggs, of



Voluntown; Sheldon Collins, C. V. Sidell, Wm. T. Black, H. C. Hepburn, and C. D. Ingersoll, of New York; W. W. Douglas, of Providence.

Manufacturing Enterprises in Bridgeport.

The industries of this city are many, and some of them are of large proportions as to money expended and income received. A general, historical outline of these various enterprises is here given as accurately as it was possible to obtain information in the short time at command, for no consideration whatever than that of a historical record, and this record is set forth as showing the cause of the rapid growth of the city. A large proportion of the mercantile business of the place, aside from manufacturing, came here, not so much to build a city, as to meet the wants of the people already here.

Hat Manufacturing was among the earliest enterprises of Bridgeport. Thomas Gouge came here in 1792 and commenced business in a shop on the corner of Middle and Beaver streets. Reuben Tweedy came from Danbury in 1793 and followed the same business, and was soon joined by his brother, Smith Tweedy. Their shops were on Middle street, north of Beaver.

In the earlier stages of the business most of the hats were made of fur bodies, for the New York market, but subsequently machinery was introduced for manufacturing wool bodies, which were napped with fur, and called napped hats.

Mr. Gouge employed five or six men and several apprentices. R. and S. Tweedy did a larger business, employing twelve to fifteen men and five or six apprentices. They opened a house in Pittsburgh, Pa., and another at Charleston, S. C., but the latter was soon relinquished.

Samuel Hawley, Jr., who learned his trade of his uncle, Nathan Seeley, of Bethel, conducted the business a short time on Main street, near Gold. He died young, in 1826.

George Wade, a former apprentice, bought out Smith



Tweedy in 1826, and after two years Mr. Wade sold to Curtis Beardsley, and for several years manufactured by himself, until 1830, when he purchased the interest of Reuben Tweedy, and the firm became Beardsley and Wade. They introduced here the manufacture of silk hats, Gilson Landon being an expert in that work. In 1837 Mr. Wade sold to Landon and the firm of Beardsley and Landon continued until 1841, when the business was given up.

Pewter Ware manufacturing was among the earliest enterprises in Bridgeport, and was conducted on the site of the old mill at Old Mill Green. B. and W. Stillman and Company, consisting of Benjamin and Wyllys Stillman and Capt. Nathan Sherman, bought the old mill site² in 1814—it being then, as it had been many years, without buildings—built a mill and engaged in the manufacture of pewter ware, such as cups, spoons, plates, and buttons. After a short time Mr. Sherman withdrew from the company and there was added the making of syringes and other articles of pewter. Afterwards wool carding was established, and later, cloth dressing, by the Stillman brothers. These were the persons who advertised for wool carding in 1818, as seen on page 278, except on that page the name is erroneously written Silliman instead of Stillman. The cutting of dye woods for market—at first by an imported expert—was also added. A then well known druggist, William B. Dyer, was the agent for their sale. His flaming advertisements of this specialty may be found in the local journals of that period.

Shirt Manufacture was commenced here in 1836. David and Isaac N. Judson, it is supposed, were the first parties in the county to make a special business of manufacturing shirts for trade. They had in their clothing store in New York a department devoted to shirts. At first a few dozen shirts were cut and sent to their sister, Miss Caroline Judson, of Old Mill Green, who gave them out to women in the vicinity, who made them, laundried, and returned them, ready for the salesroom. The business so increased that

² See map, page 41, No. 88.

Wyllys Stillman became the superintendent in the place of Miss Judson, and the work was conducted in the mill building at the head of Pembroke Lake, which was used many years as a storehouse and laundry.

The Rev. Cyrus Silliman, then residing at Green's Farms, aided in placing the work in proper hands, at first, in his vicinity, and afterwards conducted a separate business, in which he traveled through a considerable extent of country.

Mr. W. M. Stillman, who entered the establishment of Messrs. Judson in New York as a boy, early became the superintendent of the shirt department, prepared the first patterns, cut, sent out, and received the work, and still continues in the business, he must be considered a veteran.

Mr. Thaddeus Barnes came here from New Haven in 1849 and commenced the manufacture of shirts for Messrs. C. B. Hatch and Company, New York, at number 360 Main street. In 1853-4 Mr. Barnes built the original building of what is now the Burlock shirt factory, on Golden Hill, attracted thither by the springs of excellent soft water for laundry purposes. He early introduced the use of the Wheeler and Wilson sewing machines, and was one of the first to apply steam power for running them. Messrs. C. B. Hatch and Company took the establishment in 1858, and enlarged and run it until 1861. The present proprietors have still further enlarged the buildings and perfected the facilities.

Leather has had a place in the industries of this locality from the first, but only recently has it assumed any considerable proportions. About 1845 S. J. Patterson commenced the manufacture of patent leather in the usual varieties, but specially to meet the demands for carriage tops, boots, and trimmings. In 1849 he was joined by Stephen Tomlinson and formed the Bridgeport Patent Leather Company, which was again enlarged in 1866, embracing all the modern improvements. The works are run by a steam engine of twenty-five horse power, and in ordinary times they handle and finish from twenty to twenty-five thousand hides per annum. The present officers are: President, S. J. Patterson; Treasurer, S. J. Patterson; Secretary, John E. Pond. The capital stock is \$100,000.

Furniture for home use, consisting at first of plain bedsteads, chairs, tables, and sometimes a chest of drawers, constituting the "setting out" of almost every young lady, was made in the vicinity of Bridgeport from the earliest settlement of the place, the same as in other parts of the country. High-post bedsteads, and high-back, ornamented chairs were indulged in by the more well-to-do families—a few enjoyed elegant chairs and court cupboards, brought from England.

This furniture was produced, at first, by the village cabinet and chair maker, to which was added, as occasion demanded, the invariably one shaped coffin, made of cherry, or of white wood, stained red, with a rude plate bearing the initials and date, or the same put on the lid in brass headed nails.

A writing desk is still preserved, which was made for Lieut. David Sherman. An apple tree was cut, taken to the saw-mill, made into boards, and the cabinet maker transformed it into a desk of great beauty and strength, for the period, and it appears to be good for another hundred years.

So far as remembered, William H. Peabody was the first cabinet maker in Bridgeport. Lemuel Hubbell was the sole cabinet maker here for some years, and he had a wind-mill for producing power to drive a turning lathe, located on Beaver street. Mr. F. W. Parrott learned this trade of Mr. Hubbell, and made the first sofa in Bridgeport.

About sixty years ago, a shop of considerable size was built on the west side of Main street, a little south of State, and occupied as a chair manufactory, by a New York party by the name of Finch, but it was continued only a few years. About the same period, William B. Thomas was in the same business on Bank street, near the North Church Chapel, and the veteran Fenelon Hubbell was his apprentice. Mr. Hubbell, afterwards, joined Mr. F. W. Parrott, and they established a shop and salesroom on Main street, where Cannon street now enters it. During this time Carlos Curtis had purchased the establishment of Mr. Thomas—who removed to Savannah, Ga.—and enlarged the business on Bank street. After a time Mr. Parrott started anew near his residence on North Wash-



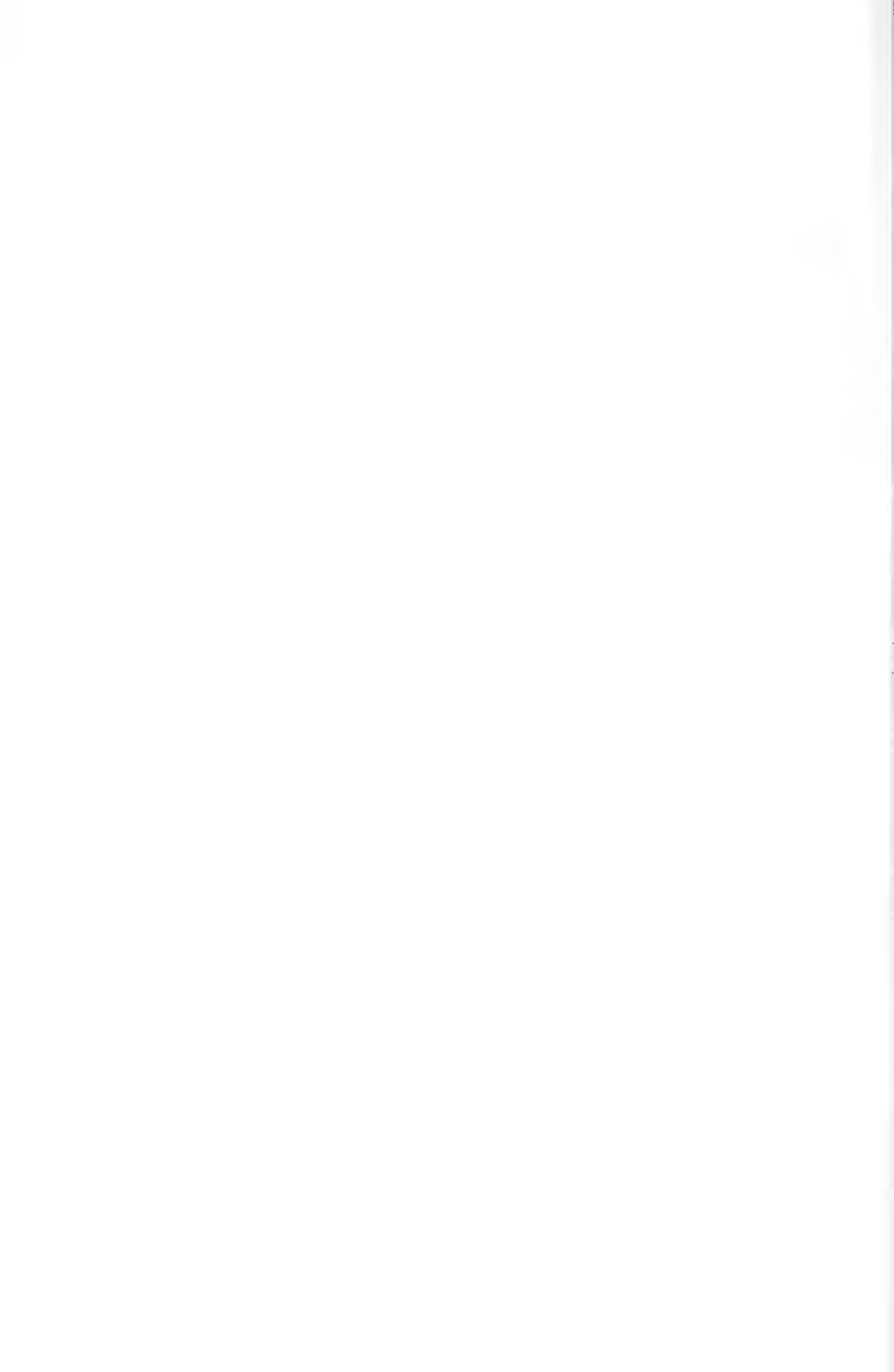
Nathan Buckingham



ington avenue, and Mr. Hubbell soon united with Mr. Carlos Curtis, and both establishments led in the manufacture of newer styles of goods. Mr. Parrott changed his business, some years after, to the making of varnish, and Hubbell and Curtis are still a leading firm in the cabinet making business.

Messrs. Frederick Lockwood and Nathan Buckingham commenced business together in 1838, which has grown and continues to be a large and important business among the enterprises of Bridgeport.

Nathan Buckingham was born in Milford, Ct., Dec. 29, 1813, and learned the trade of a joiner and builder in New Haven. He came to Bridgeport in 1834 to follow his trade, with Jerah Stowe, also of Milford; and their business was located on Water street until 1840 or '41. At this time, Mr. Frederick Lockwood and Nichols Northrop were manufacturing chairs and light furniture in Mr. Roswell Lewis' large store on the wharf, nearly opposite Union street. In 1842, Mr. Buckingham took the place of Mr. Northrop, and the business was continued under the old name. In 1843, they established a wareroom on State street, where they were burned out in 1845. The next year F. Lockwood and Co. put up the brick building on Water street, the upper stories of which have been used for the furniture business ever since, by that company and its successors. In 1853, Mr. Lockwood sold his interest to Mr. Burr Curtis, when the firm name was changed to Buckingham and Curtis. They continued thus until 1857, when the former took the whole business, conducting it until 1872, when he took Mr. David Stowe and Mr. Chas. B. Buckingham as partners. They gave prominence to undertaking, and, associating with them Mr. W. F. Bishop, opened a store on Wall street, devoted to this specialty, the first of the kind in Bridgeport. A branch house was also established in South Norwalk, which, in 1878, was taken by Mr. Stowe, and the other partners kept the Bridgeport house, which has been continued with great success until the present time, under the name of N. Buckingham and Company. Mr. Nathan Buckingham died June 16, 1885. He was a member of the Common Council in 1860 and '61, and was an active



member of the Board of Trade. At his decease he was president of the Bridgeport Coach Lace Company, also a trustee of the City Savings Bank, and a member of the Universalist Society. In 1840, he married Mary A., daughter of Abel Booth, of Stratford, who survives him with the following children: Charles B. Buckingham, Mrs. M. M. Downer, and Mrs. J. O. Green, of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Charles B. Buckingham and his brother-in-law, Mr. M. M. Downer, continue the business at the store on Water street.

A Furniture Manufacturing Company was formed as a joint stock concern in 1852, which was run with varying successes for several years, when it came under the control of the present enterprising proprietor, Mr. Jacob Kiefer, who has made it one of the leading enterprises of the city.

The work of the undertaker, now frequently a separate business from all others, grew out of the trade of cabinet making, and has become a very essential part in the fulfillment of the first stipulation made in nearly all the wills for two hundred years,—“a decent burial.” Mr. Frederick W. Parrott built the first hearse that was used in Bridgeport, upon the suggestion of his wife, Mrs. Lucelia A. Parrott. He built the body with his own hands, purchased the running part of a neighboring wagon maker, and Mrs. Parrott made the cloth trimmings.

Messrs. George E. Northagle and Son, furniture makers and merchants. They were engaged some years with the Hubbell and Curtis Co., until January 1, 1886, when they purchased the stand of Kiefer and Company, at 425 Main street. They manufacture a general assortment and do a retail business, doing their own upholstering, occupying the four upper stories of the building. They are practical workmen themselves, and propose to keep up with all the demands and enterprises of their line of business.

Carriage Making became prominent early in the business enterprises of Bridgeport. Previous to 1833, it was confined to the modest establishment of Messrs. Carier and Porter on Middle street, and Mott and Burr, on Clinton, near the corner of North avenue. The late Stephen Tomlinson,



who had been identified with the Middle street establishment, and David Augustus Wood, both excellent mechanics, were joined by the late Jeremiah Judson, who contributed both capital and enterprise to the firm of Tomlinson, Wood and Co. They erected a factory on Broad, at what was the head of Cannon street, and entered upon what proved to be a very successful business. The house maintained a preëminence in New York City for many years.

About 1834, the first steam power was introduced in connection with the carriage business. David and Ebenezer Wheeler set up a James engine, a sugar-loaf boiler, in two parts, the top conical in shape, set in a knuckle joint, kept in place by its own weight. The power was used for sawing, drilling, turning axles and grinding springs, the engine being located in the blacksmith shop on the south side of Cannon street. This engine also furnished steam for a bathing establishment on the north side of Cannon street.

About the same time, Mott and Burr removed to the locality on State street, since occupied by Messrs. Mott and Company, enlarged their business, where, with some changes of proprietors, they maintained a prominent position to a very recent period.

Several firms of longer or shorter continuance have sometime since discontinued or removed, such as: Haight; Hurd, Fairchild and Co., North Main street; Burr and Haight; George Keeler, on Harrison street; the Union Carriage Co., in the pioneer factory in East Bridgeport; and after them in the same building, Brewster and Co., who became very celebrated in the sale of fine carriages in Broome street, New York; also Haight and Hubbell, in East Bridgeport. Also the Messrs. Nichols, veteran manufacturers of light wagons at Nichols Farms, in Trumbull, have a few years since located in John street.

Nichols, Peck and Co.'s carriage manufactory was established at Nos. 97 and 99 John street. George K. Nichols and his brother David S. Nichols were successors to James K. Nichols, in manufacturing carriages at Nichols Farms. They made coaches and light carriages, chiefly for the Southern States and Texas, making also a specialty in Mexican

coaches. At the commencement of the late rebellion the firm met with heavy losses in the Southern trade at their house in New York where in Broadway they had kept a depository for a few years under the charge of George K. Nichols, the senior member of the firm. Soon after this the firm of Nichols, Peck and Co. was organized. In 1862, George K. Nichols went to Rochester, N. Y., remaining through the war and sometime after in charge of a depository which the firm had in that city. About that time they received large orders from Australia, and did a lucrative trade with that market, some years.

In 1873, the buildings on the old Nichols estate at Nichols Farms were abandoned, the manufacturing having been all removed to the present commodious place of business in Bridgeport; their principal building in John street being sixty feet square, four stories in height, where now between twenty and thirty men are employed. Mr. James K. Nichols died in 1883, since which time the business has been principally owned and managed by Mr. George K. Nichols, assisted by Mr. Charles W. Blakeman. The firm of Nichols, Peck and Co. has established a well-earned reputation and enjoy the confidence and esteem of their fellow citizens.

Saddlery was a very important element in the earlier growth and prosperity of Bridgeport; indeed, for almost half a century its relative importance as compared with the size of the place, at the time, was fully equal to that of the sewing machine interest, for the last twenty years. Substantial fortunes were realized by proprietors, and among the employed, the liberal earnings and arrangement for savings, numerous independent happy homes were secured.

William Peet, one of the early settlers in Bridgeport, was a tanner and saddle maker. His dwelling was on State street, on the site of the present post office, and his tannery was on Broad street, west side, between John and Cannon streets. He probably established this tannery before the year 1800, for Sheldon Smith of Derby, born March, 1791, was placed as an apprentice with Mr. Peet in 1805, to learn saddle and harness making, and soon after his majority Mr. Peet took him as a partner under the firm name of Peet and

Smith. The manufacturing was conducted in the second story of the new block near Mr. Peet's residence, and supplied little more than the local demand.

William Wright, a native of Clarksville, N. Y., was a practical saddler, having learned his trade of his uncle, Anson G. Phelps, of Hartford. He had been employed at Middletown, Conn., and about 1814 had visited Charleston, S. C., by a vessel sent out from Middletown to that port with an assorted cargo of which saddlery formed a part. On his return, he came from New York to Bridgeport, and meeting Sheldon Smith opened the subject of establishing a distinctive saddlery business at Charleston, although the Smiths of Hartford were already there. Neither had the needed capital, but they applied to Mr. Peet who consented to assist them. A small stock of goods was made and in the fall sent to Charleston. On landing his goods Mr. Wright opened a store on Meeting street and placed over the door the name of Peet, Smith and Company. Many of his customers called him Peet Smith, and thought that was his name.³ Mr. Wright sold his stock at good prices long before the season was over, but in the unsettled state of the country he could make no remittances, and Mr. Peet declined sending more goods, without receiving returns for those already sent.

In the spring Mr. Wright came to Bridgeport and made report, which gave entire satisfaction to his partners, and after that they never hesitated to send him all the goods he needed. On September 2, 1819, he married Minerva, one of the four daughters of Mr. Peet. The business of the firm prospered, and soon the profits satisfied Mr. Peet's moderate ambition and he retired from the firm in the year 1816. The firm then of Smith and Wright established themselves in a store on the wharf at the end of the Bridgeport Bridge, and they gradually enlarged their operations.

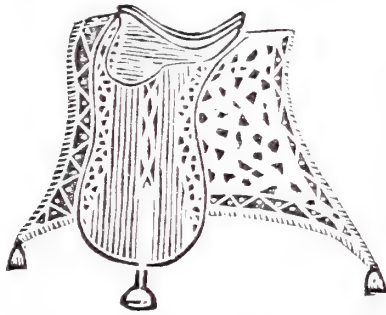
Hanford Lyon, a native of Weston, Conn., had been apprenticed to Elijah Sanford, of Danbury, and by the receipts of money for overwork at the age of twenty years, purchased the last year of his time, and, having some money left, came

³ One of his customers, seeing Mr. Wright write the name Peet, Smith & Co., on the bill, blurted out "What do you spell your name that way for? Why don't you write it out Pe-ter Smith."

to Bridgeport and commenced the saddlery business, in the second story of the new block, corner of State and Main sts. He was joined by Lemuel Coleman and perhaps others, and Mr. Coleman soon followed Mr. Wright to Charleston, S. C. More capital was needed, and the Fairchild Brothers, of Trumbull, who were successful manufacturers of saddle trees, joined Mr. Lyon. The Fairchilds owned two stores on the east side of Water street near the foot of Wall, and into one of these the firm of Fairchild, Lyon and Co. removed,⁴ and under this firm name in Charleston made a vigorous fight against Smith and Wright for the business of that market.⁵

In this opposition neither firm made money and, therefore, on March 20, 1821, a compromise was effected by which Smith and Wright were to remove their manufactory to Newark, N. J., taking Savannah and Augusta, Ga., Mobile and New Orleans as their market, while Fairchild, Lyon and Co. were to remain at Bridgeport, and hold Charleston as their market, which was ample for all the goods they could produce.

Some attention was given to local trade, as seen from the following fac-simile cut and copied advertisement, taken from the "Republican Farmer" of September 25, 1822:



"Fairchild, Lyon and Co.,
Have for sale, cheap for cash or short approved credit, a general assortment of Saddles, Bridles, Harnesses, Trunks, Valieces, Portmanteaus, Whips, Spurs, Holsters, Caps, Saddlery Ware, &c. They also manufacture Cotton Web; and will furnish saddles with that article very low.

⁴ In the summer of 1818 Barak T. Nichols, a native of Greenfield, engaged as an apprentice to Fairchild, Lyon and Co., doing chores in the old store now standing just below the south line of Wall street. Mr. Nichols, while in his prime, just before the late war, filled a large place in the saddlery business in Augusta, Ga., and at Newark, N. J. He is still living in North Bridgeport.

⁵ In 1820 Mr. Southmayd, of Middletown, failed, and quite a number of journeymen and apprentices came from that manufactory to Bridgeport, among whom were Chauncey Ward, James F. Banks, and William Wright, Jr.

"Cash paid for common Bark and Hemlock Tanned Sheepskins, and Cattle's Hair, at the store, west end the Bridge. Bridgeport, May 21, 1822."

About 1828 the Fairchilds retired from the saddlery business and the firm was changed to Lyon, Wright and Co., at Bridgeport, and Coleman, Wright and Co., at Charleston; Mr. Wright retaining only a fractional interest, which was represented by Mr. H. K. Harral, who subsequently acquired Mr. Wright's interest and more, but Mr. Wright's name was retained for its prestige until 1837, when Smith and Wright, though financially sound, were forced to suspend payment temporarily, and the name of Harral was substituted for Wright. A short time brought in remittances, which set the Newark house right and their prosperity was scarcely checked by their suspension.

Henry K. Harral, at the age of fourteen, left the house of his father, Doct. George Harral, in Rochester, N. Y., to seek his fortune in New York City, where he obtained employment and developed a noticeable business talent, which chanced to meet the quick eye of William Wright, who proposed to him to go out to Charleston and learn his business. To this Mr. Harral consented and proved a very valuable acquisition. He is said to have been one of the most successful salesmen and collectors ever engaged in the southern trade. He subsequently married Sarah Ann, the youngest daughter of William Peet, and was prominent in the financial, municipal, political, and social circles of Bridgeport and Connecticut. In 1840 he purchased the home of the Rev. John Blatchford, D.D., on Golden Hill, and the native walnut grove adjoining, and in 1848 and 9 removed the old dwelling house, improved the grounds, and erected the large dwelling now owned and occupied by the Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler. He possessed an active and nervous temperament, and apparently a strong constitution, but in 1853 a chronic bronchial trouble became strongly developed, which he sought to alleviate by a winter's residence at Aiken, S. C. In this he and his friends were disappointed, for he died at Augusta, Ga., in the spring of 1854, aged 46 years.

Philo C. Calhoun, a native of Danbury, Conn., was apprenticed to Lyon, Wright and Company in 1826. The workman's ledger of the firm shows an entry of ten dollars credit to B. T. Nichols for instructing Philo C. Calhoun on harness. This used to be referred to as a curiosity when these gentlemen were at the head of their respective firms and filling a large place in business circles. He was of rather delicate health and the exposures in his work threatened to permanently impair his health. On this account and good qualities he was placed in the store at Charleston, where he spent a number of years associated with H. K. Harral, who had become the leading manager of that house. In 1835 or 6 Mr. Lyon called Mr. Calhoun to his aid in Bridgeport, giving him a small interest in the profits.

In 1838 changes were made and the firm became Lyon, Calhoun and Company, consisting of Hanford Lyon, P. C. Calhoun, H. K. Harral, and Willys Lyon, a relative of Hanford Lyon, who for a number of years had been bookkeeper for the firm. In Charleston, Mr. Coleman having retired, the firm became Harral, Hare and Co., Robert W. Hare, a native of Philadelphia, and William Harral, brother of H. K. Harral, becoming associated. In June, 1843, H. K. Harral purchased the entire interest of Hanford Lyon and the latter retired from active business with a handsome fortune, which by skillful management was further augmented, and at his decease he was the largest tax payer in Bridgeport.

Hanford Lyon was born in the town of Easton, Conn., in Rock House district, and was the son of Nathaniel Webb Lyon. His family was noted for its longevity. His father attained nearly 101 years; his brother David 96 years; Samuel, 93; Levi, 90; and Walker, 81. His youngest brother, Jarvis, died at the age of 56. Hanford was the youngest but one in the family of nine children. He worked on his father's farm, attended the public school in winter, until he was fourteen years of age, when he was apprenticed at Danbury, and then passed through the business career as represented in the preceding pages concerning the saddlery business.

Mr. Lyon was twice married. His first wife was Hettie





Engraved by J. H. Smith

Canford Lyon

Ann Thompson, of Stratford, sister of the late Joseph and John M. Thompson. Their children were two sons: Frederick H., who married Bessie Hawley; William, who is unmarried; and three daughters: Sarah J., who married Judge Edward I. Sanford, of New Haven; Josie, married Henry T. Shelton; and Adelaide.

His second wife was Annie Mackey Frye, daughter of Daniel M. and Ann Butler Frye, of New York City, and sister of the late Major Frederick Frye. Mr. Lyon left the following children by this marriage, who, with their mother, survive him: Edward H., who married Jessie, daughter of Doct. D. H. Porter; Frank C., who married Ida, daughter of Mrs. C. M. Mitchell, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Charles G.; and Alice C., who married Col. Thomas L. Watson, of Bridgeport and New York.

Mr. Lyon was a member of the first Congregational society from his early manhood, and united with the church in 1858, in which he was held in high esteem. Self-educated and thoroughly furnished by a large and active business experience, with capabilities equal to almost any position, he was yet unassuming and did not seek public office or distinction. He belonged to the old whig party during its day, but afterwards became a strong republican and supporter of the union cause in the late war. He was a member of the Common Council of the city in the years 1837, '42, '44, '45 and '48, a portion of the time as alderman. He was a director of the Connecticut Bank; director and president of the old Bridgeport Bank; director of the Pequonnock Bank; first president of the City Savings Bank; director and president of the City Gas Light Company; and was also a valued member of other important public and private institutions. He died December 21, 1879.

In 1843 Mr. Harral retired from the management of the Charleston house, making Bridgeport his only residence, and with P. C. Calhoun devoted himself to the Bridgeport business. Before the first year of the new firm had passed additional help was needed and they employed Mr. Rowland B. Lacey, whose successful management of the business of the Housatonic Railroad at Bridgeport—which at that time

meant a large part of the business of the road—in close proximity to their saddlery, secured an assuring business acquaintance, and he entered their establishment in March, 1844. The firm of Harral and Calhoun was continued ten years, until June 1, 1853, when Mr. Lacey became a partner, and it was made Harral, Calhoun and Company.

Railroads, at this time, began to add to the facilities of transportation and prosperity in business enterprises. In 1845 the company opened a salesroom at 309 Pearl street, New York, with Francis Harral, the youngest brother of H. K. Harral, as manager, and in 1847-8 an arrangement was made with Samuel E. Sproulls, who had much experience in the southern trade in the firm of Rankin, Sproulls and Co., hatters, of Charleston, S. C., to join the company, and the business was removed to the fine store numbers 119, 121 William street, under the name of Harral, Sproulls and Co. In 1852 the business was removed to 24 Chambers street.

In 1847 occurred the Mexican War, in which the United States acquired the territory of Texas, which opened a new market and called for new styles of goods.

In 1845 Isaac Sherman, Jr., was furnished with a stock of saddlery goods by this company to try the St. Louis market. These he readily disposed of, and the next year an arrangement was made, under the firm name of Harral, Sherman and Co., for the sale of saddlery in St. Louis, Mo. In 1847 the cholera appeared in St. Louis and Mr. Sherman started for home, but died with that disease at Rockford, Ill. The vacancy was filled by Edward J. Sterling, a brother-in-law of Mr. Calhoun. The firm later manufactured extensively in St. Louis, as some kinds of stock and labor were cheaper there. In 1858 their connection with the Bridgeport house ceased.

Mr. Harral died in 1854, but the company name and its business continued until June, 1858, when the firms were reorganized and became Calhoun, Lacy and Company, composed of P. C. Calhoun, R. B. Lacey, Henry T. Shelton, and George H. Meeker, at Bridgeport; Sproulls, Meeker and Company, composed of Samuel E. Sproulls, John B. Meeker, J. B. Hoover, and Samuel R. Lang, in New York; Calhoun and Lacey only retaining an interest in the Charleston house.

In 1853 the old building at the west end of the Bridgeport bridge, which had been used as a saddle factory from 1816, became insufficient, and the firm purchased the property on the corner of Fairfield avenue and Middle street, now owned by the Read Carpet company. This property had been improved by a Malleable Iron company, which produced mainly saddlery hardware, but had been burned out. These ruins were rebuilt as far as necessary, and fitted up in good style, and the business prospered until the commencement of the late war.

At the opening of the war their southern trade was broken up and they sustained great losses on it, but they soon entered upon extensive production of army goods on orders from the United States government, and thereby retrieved a portion of their losses. On the opening of the south at the close of the war a few of the old customers made honorable settlements. In 1863 the partnership changed, Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Sproulls retiring, and the firm of Lacey, Meeker and Company continuing the business about five years longer.

The sketch of this business thus far is an outline of only one firm, the original house from which sprang others of more or less note.

Seth B. Jones and Co., saddlery makers. Seth B. Jones was born in Ridgefield, Conn., December 25, 1798, and was apprenticed to —— Northrop, one of the saddlers who worked on the corner of Main and State streets. Hanford Lyon and Joshua Lord worked there at the same time. Mr. Jones was ambitious and economical, and was able, from the avails of over work, to purchase of his employer the latter portion of his time, and commenced business for himself in 1820. He opened a store in Savannah, Ga., H. Cassady being his salesman and manager. When he was twenty-five years of age he had accumulated the sum of \$25,000. In 1835 Noah B. Knapp, a native of Danbury, took charge of the business in Savannah, and the firm was N. B. Knapp and Company. His factory was the old brick house of Capt. David Hawley at the corner of Water and Union streets, and continued there until Mr. Jones retired in 1847, after a very successful business

career. The late Dea. Henry Higby was cutter and foreman in this factory for many years, and such men as Joshua Lord, William Wright, Jr., Edwin B. Gregory, Alexander S. Gorham, were journeymen saddlers. It was the arena for the warm discussion of high theological themes. Munson Wade and the late Samuel Grumman, J. B. Barnum and Daniel W. Hawley were among the younger apprentices. The old shop was taken down in 1847 for the erection by Mr. Jones of the brick block on Water street north of Union, and the little manufacturing continued by N. B. Knapp and Co. was conducted in a loft on the east side of Water street at the foot of Bank street, Mr. Knapp being supplied with most of the saddles he needed by Harral, Calhoun and Co., at a small advance from cost. In 1853 Mr. Higby gave up his position as manufacturer for Mr. Knapp and a local business was continued by Barnum and Grumman, later by Grumman and Wilson. The present firm of Wilson and Doremus, at number 391 Water street, is the local representative, or successor, of the firm of S. B. Jones and Company.

I. and L. Sherman constituted another company. Isaac and Levi Sherman were sons of Capt. Sterling Sherman, whose home was in the house still standing at the northeast corner of Park and Fairfield avenues. They were apprentices to Smith and Wright, and finished up with Fairchild, Lyon and Co., after the removal of the former firm to Newark, which occurred March 20, 1821. They commenced the saddlery business in 1826, on the east side of Water street (up stairs), now number 400 Water street, and had a branch in Columbia, S. C. Silvanus Sterling went out to Columbia and assisted them in the early years of the business. Levi Sherman continued in the charge of the branch until about 1840, and they were very successful for many years.

Isaac Sherman, Jr., became embarrassed by some outside operations in 1837, and the factory here was given up. The health of Levi failed and the Columbia business was sold to Linus F. Hopson and ——— Sutphen. Hopson was a cousin of the Shermans, and served his apprenticeship in their factory in Bridgeport. Hopson and Sutphen manufactured some goods in Columbia, but purchased saddles largely of



Harral, Calhoun and Co., in the busy years before the war. They still survive—one of the few old landmarks.

Levi Hawley, a Bridgeport boy, an apprentice of Smith and Wright, and Fairchild, Lyon and Co., finished up "his time" July 15, 1826, with a credit for overwork of \$670, after deducting over \$500 of cash drawn during his apprenticeship.

About 1830 he started business for himself in Columbia, S. C., which he successfully pursued in his quiet way until about 1860, when he retired to Asheville, N. C.

Chauncey Ward and Joshua Lord went to Savannah and opened a saddlery store in 1834. Mr. Lord remained but one year. Mr. Ward continued about twelve years, and conducting a branch store in Tallahassee, Fla., in connection with Charles P. May, latter part of the time Charles Will's assistant. In 1845 the Tallahassee store was burned. This, with other losses, so crippled Mr. Ward that he sold his Savannah store to Wade, May and Company, and changed his business.

Wade, Crosby and Co., were another firm of saddlers. William Wade, Joseph F. Crosby, William H. May, were all apprentices of Fairchild, Lyon and Co., and Lyon, Wright and Co. They commenced manufacturing in Bridgeport under the above firm name in 1835. They were located on the second floor of J. Mott and Co's carriage building, fronting State street. J. F. Crosby was the manager of the factory, with branches at Savannah and Columbus, Ga. William H. May was business manager at Savannah, and Hiram Middlebrook at Columbus. When I. and L. Sherman gave up business at what is now number 400 Water street, William H. Bissell, a well known harness maker, continued a local business in the premises. In 1842 Wade, Crosby and Co. moved their factory to this building, and Mr. Bissell took charge of their harness department, and held it a number of years.

In 1848 Eli Thompson joined the firm and they moved their factory to the brick building on the south side of the west approach to the Bridgeport bridge, and the firm name was Thompson, May and Co. in Bridgeport for seven or eight years, and was very successful. They opened a house in New



York, with William Morrison (a Lyon, Wright and Co. apprentice), as business manager, under the firm name of Wade, Morrison and Co., and occupied stores successively on Maiden Lane, Pearl street, and number 35 Chambers street. William Morrison had previously been in the same business in Tallahassee, Fla., succeeding Ward and May.

Most of the persons mentioned in connection with the saddlery business were practical mechanics, having learned the trade from beginning to end. In addition thereto the following names are extracted from the list of early apprentices of Smith and Wright, and Fairchild, Lyon and Company, and their successors in Bridgeport, with brief notices of their business career, all illustrating the qualities of the young men of that period.

The figures at the left hand margin denote the year in which each attained the age of twenty-one years.*

- 1821. Edwin Van Antwerp—A member of the Smith and Wright house in Augusta, Ga., and Newark, N. J.
- 1823. Barak T. Nichols—Ditto, and purchased the interest of E. Van Antwerp, first in Augusta and afterwards in Newark and became the head of the firm there.
- 1821. Joshua Lord—Worked as a journeyman in Bridgeport, became a leading citizen, justice of peace, and county commissioner.
- 1822. Levi Wordin—Journeyman in Bridgeport; was a citizen of large means, a director in the Bridgeport bank. Erected a fine house at northeast corner of Park avenue and State street.
- 1823. Nathaniel P. Crosby—Journeyman in Bridgeport; very expert.
- 1823. William Wright, 2d—Journeyman in Bridgeport; an intelligent, good citizen, and a valued member of the second Congregational church.
- 1824. Peter Vandervort—From a Dutch family in New York. Lived and died in Newark, N. J.
- 1824. Chauncey Ward—In saddlery business in Savannah, Ga., 1834-1846, with a branch in Tallahassee, Fla.; sold out to Wade, Crosby and Co. In clothing business in Macon, Ga., and Galena, Ill. In Bridgeport since 1850.
- 1827. Fitch Smith—Brother of Sheldon Smith; native of Derby. He was connected with Smith and Wright's factory some years. Early and prominently connected with the development of Birmingham.
- Eliud Fairchild—Became a well known landlord, first at Westport, later at the Sterling hotel and the Stanley house in Bridgeport.
- 1829. Ezra Goodsell—Son of Joel, a veteran saddler. He was efficient and useful as foreman at Smith and Wright's and J. E. Condit's factories in Newark, and for a short time in Bridgeport.

* These names are taken from the original book opened by Fairchild, Lyon and Company, March 20, 1821, to which were transferred the account of such apprentices as they took from Smith and Wright, on the removal of that firm to Newark, N. J.

1827. Sheldon Curtis—Journeyman in Bridgeport; a good, reliable workman later a farmer in Trumbull.
- Willys Lord—Brother of Joshua; began study in preparation for college before he was "out of his time." Graduated at Williamstown, Mass. Pastor in New Hartford, Ct., Providence, R. I., Philadelphia, Fairfield, Ct., and Brooklyn, N. Y.; president of Theological Seminary, Chicago; Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio, until sight failed; survives and preaches occasionally in the west.
1829. S. S. Jarvis—Has followed successively druggist, hardware and shoe business in Bridgeport.
1829. Philo A. Gregory—A journeyman saddler and foreman, and inspector in the factory of Lyon, Calhoun and Co., and their successors up to 1868. An excellent man and a good citizen.
1829. Charles B. Middlebrook—Clerk steamer Nimrod, wholesale grocer, trying justice on Staten Island, N. Y.
1835. Isaac O. Pettitt—Saddlery and harness business in New Milford and Bridgeport.
1836. Henry M. Smith—Journeyman in Bridgeport; later an extensive manufacturer in New Haven, Ct.
1838. David Jennings—Wholesale saddlery, Condict, Jennings and Co., Charleston, S. C.
1839. Amos Higgins—Bridgeport; farmer.
1839. Charles Waterbury—Superintendent Naugatuck Railroad.
1841. Benjamin Stevens—A leading workman with Smith and Co., Hartford, Ct.
1841. Baltus M. Segee—In business in Philadelphia and vicinity.
1842. Edwin H. Wells—Journeyman and later manufacturer in Bridgeport.
1841. Chester Russell—Forty years a leading grocer and baker in Bridgeport.
1841. Charles Rockwell—Clerk on steamboat; general freight agent of N. Y., N. H., and Consolidated Railroads.
- William B. Swan—Saddlery and harness in Norwalk, Ct.
1840. Charles Wells—In Tallahassee, Fla., a time; journeyman in Bridgeport; teacher and leader of vocal music in choirs and in the public schools of Bridgeport.
1846. Frank H. Stevens—Restaurant keeper, Bridgeport.

S. F. Hurd and Company.—In 1850 a special firm was made for business in California, consisting of S. F. Hurd, Joseph F. Crosby, Eli Thompson, and Alexander Hamilton, in Bridgeport, and Thomas Ferris and Thomas Holman, in San Francisco, Cal. This arrangement continued but four or five years and was very successful, dividing at the close \$200,000, the four Bridgeport parties taking one half the sum and Ferris and Holman the other half. On the retirement of Mr. Thompson the firm, with the branches, embraced Joseph F. Crosby and Sylvester S. May, Bridgeport, William Morrison and S. Henry Hurd, New York, William



H. May, Savannah, Ga., and Hiram Middlebrook, Columbus, Ga. Mr. Hurd purchased the school building on State street, now numbers 200, 202, and the manufacturing has since been done there, latterly by Robert D. Bissett and Edwin H. Wells, and said Wells and Wilson French, both the latter were former apprentices and journeymen in the old house of Lyon, Calhoun and Co. and their successors. The firm name in New York continued to be Morrison, Hurd and Co. to 1864, then Morrison, Miller and Co., and at this writing is Miller, Morrison and Co.

*The Wheeler and Wilson Manufacturing Company*¹ is one of the largest industries within the city of Bridgeport, and probably the most celebrated.

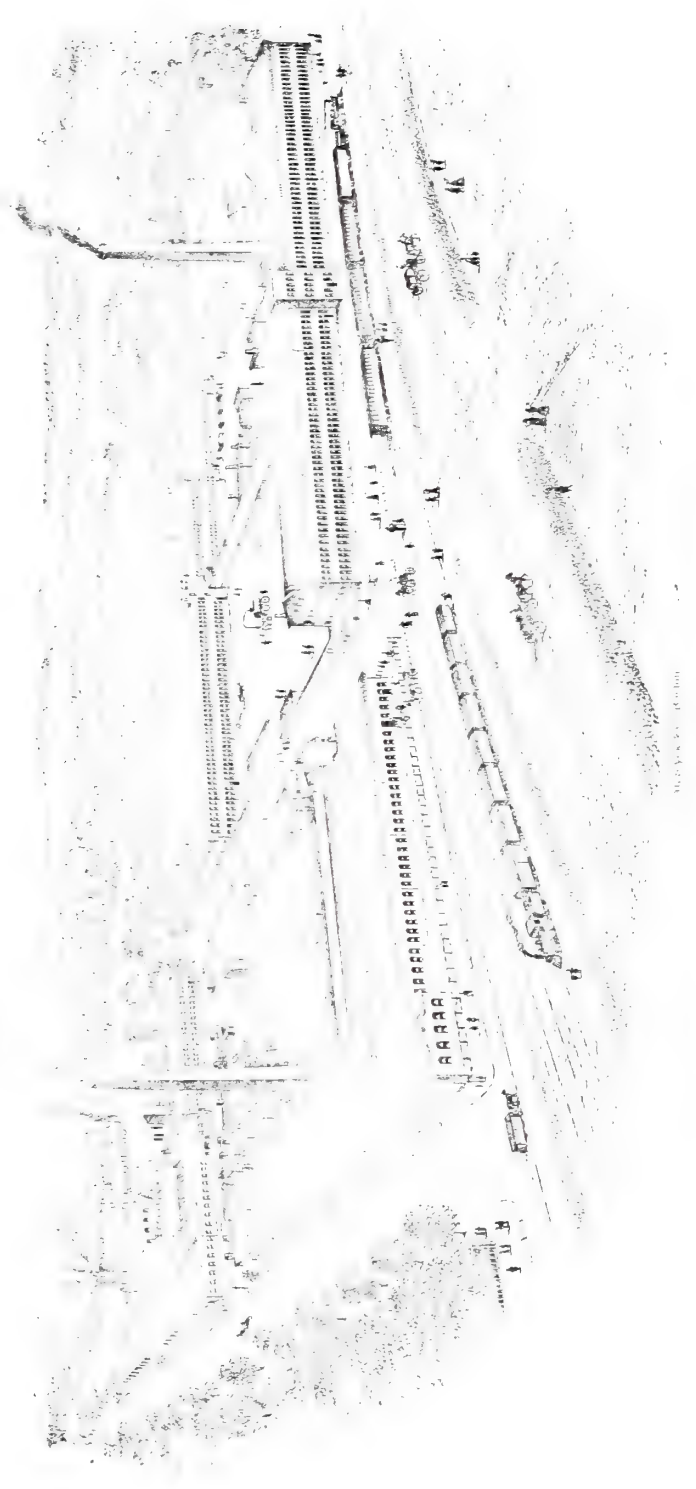
Between 1830 and 1850 several patents for sewing machines were granted in England and the United States, but none of them fully covered the idea of a practical sewing machine. The first patent for such a machine was granted November 12, 1850, to Allen B. Wilson, of Pittsfield, Mass.

Allen B. Wilson was born in Willett, Cortland Co., N. Y., October 18, 1824. His father was a mill-wright and was killed by accident while putting in a water-wheel. He left a wife, one son and two daughters. The son, Allen B., was indentured, at eleven years of age, to a farmer, remaining only a year, but he continued to work on a farm until sixteen years of age, also improving much time in a blacksmith shop, learning the trade, when he was apprenticed to a cabinet maker in the town of Cincinnatus in the same county. This place he soon left, for cause, and obtained work as a blacksmith, and continued at it until early in 1847, when he was at Adrian, Mich., as a journeyman, where he conceived the idea of a sewing machine, having never heard of one, and settled in his own mind the devices and adjustments to accomplish the object.

The earliest sewing machine of which there is record was that of Thomas Saint, patented in England in 1790, but it was not introduced into practical use. In 1830 Bartholomy

¹ This sketch is taken largely from the "History of Manufactures of New England."





WHEELER AND WILSON

WHEELER AND WILSON MANUFACTURING CO.

Thimonnier patented in France a machine of which, in 1841, he had eighty at work in Paris, on army clothing. Like the loom of Jaquard and the spinning-jenny of Hargreaves, they were destroyed by a mob; but in 1848 he had another set of machines at work in Paris, sewing and embroidering, but these were also destroyed, and their enterprising inventor gave up in despair. In 1841 Newton and Archbold secured a patent in England for a sewing machine differing but little from that of Saint, except in the needle's eye. Then, about 1832, Walter Hunt, of New York, made a sewing machine, but did not perfect it so as to bring it into use. In 1854, after the sewing machine with Hunt's own device, in the hands of Singer and others had become a success, he applied for a patent, with abundant proofs of his claim that he had used both the eye-pointed needle and the shuttle some years before.

Elias Howe, Jr., began his experiments in 1843. In May, 1843, he had a machine at work which was patented September 10, 1846, but this machine, besides several defects, could sew only a straight seam.

John Bachelor, of Boston, Mass., patented, May 8, 1849, an improvement on previous machines, but liable, in part, to the same objections as others. Mr. Bachelor devised the first automatic, continuous feed, and, as involving this principle, the patent was renewed on its expiration in 1863, and again in 1870, by special act of Congress. Mr. Howe constructed four machines, but did not succeed in introducing them into actual use. The machine now bearing his name was not patented until 1857, some six years after Wheeler and Wilson had made their machine a success.

Mr. Allen B. Wilson devised his first machine, as has been said, in 1847. He became ill, and was not able to work at his trade until August, 1848, when he obtained employment at Pittsfield, Mass., and then resolved to develop the idea of a sewing machine. By November he had made full drawings of all the parts of the machine, according to his previous conceptions. The firm, Barnes and Goodrich, which he was then engaged with, dissolved in February, 1859, and Mr. Wilson remained with Amos Barnes, who continued the business, with the privilege of working evenings for himself in the



shop. On the evening of the 3d of February, the first day of his engagement with Mr. Barnes, he began the construction of his first machine, which he completed about the first of April. With it he made dress waists and other articles requiring fine sewing, with straight or curved seams; and it was exhibited to several persons, who were pleased with its work.

The first problem for Mr. Wilson was, what kind of stitch to make, and the next, how to make it. The stitch needed the use of the least possible quantity of thread, and a non-liability of the seam to rip. He arrived at the same conclusion as Walter Hunt and Elias Howe, that both of these conditions could best be met by the lock-stitch, made by two threads crossing each other within the two layers of cloth, and presenting the same appearance on both sides of it. The chain-stitch would take one-half more thread, and should the thread break at any point, the whole seam might ravel out. Mr. Wilson believed that such a lock-stitch could be made if a loop could be formed by one thread on one side of the cloth, and another thread could be passed singly through it. Then, by some proper device for tension, the two threads could be drawn tight, so as to present the same appearance on both sides of the cloth. For this, enough of the looping thread must be pushed through the cloth to form a loop. It did not require much mechanical ingenuity to conceive of the needle, with an eye in the point at the end of some reciprocating mechanism, to push the needle nearly through the cloth, carrying the thread with it, and then to withdraw the needle, leaving enough of the thread behind to form the loop. Mr. Wilson's idea of the shuttle was an improvement on that of Hunt or Howe, in that, as it was pointed at both ends, it would make a stitch in its motion both ways, so that to make the same number of stitches his shuttle would need to travel only half as fast. The next point was to devise a feed-motion so far automatic as to secure a uniform length of stitch, which could not be effected by a mere guidance with the hand. It was also provided for crooked, or curved, as well as straight seams, and such seams that a sharp angle could be made, if necessary. Mr. Wilson's first device was



that known as the "two-motion feed," to distinguish it from his subsequent, more effective device, the "four-motion feed." The two-motion feed consisted of a horizontal reciprocating, toothed surface, the inclination of the teeth being forward, always in contact with the material, and while the needle was in the material moving back to a new stroke. This feed proved usually effective, and thousands of machines having this device were sold. In this feed device Mr. Wilson solved the problem, not of making a machine which would sew after a certain fashion, but the first one which was fully adapted to the necessities of every household, and a saver of time and labor in many kinds of manufacturing.

In May, 1849, having removed to North Adams, Mass., he built a second machine on the same principle, but of better workmanship. He finally induced Joseph N. Chapin, of North Adams, to purchase one-half of the invention for two hundred dollars, and with this money he secured a patent, November 12, 1850. While his application was pending, he received notice from parties owning an interest in a machine patented by John A. Bradshaw, of Lowell, Mass., November 28, 1848, that Bradshaw's patent covered the double pointed shuttle which he claimed in his application, and that they should oppose an issue of a patent to him. Two of these parties were A. P. Kline and Edward Lee, of New York. A compromise was made, by which Mr. Wilson conveyed to them one-half of the patent. Mr. Wilson was associated with Kline and Lee for about two months before the issue of the patent, arranging to go into the manufacture and sale of the machines; but becoming dissatisfied with this arrangement on the 25th of November he sold to Kline and Lee all his interest in the patent, except the right for New Jersey, and that to sew leather in Massachusetts, for \$2,000. This sum, however, was never paid to him. Before the end of the year he was introduced to Nathaniel Wheeler, with whose name his own has been associated more than a quarter of a century, as identified with one of the most extensive industries of New England.

Nathaniel Wheeler was born in Watertown, Conn., September 7, 1820. His father was a carriage manufacturer,



and the son learned the trade. He was at first employed chiefly in the ornamental parts of the work, and afterwards had the entire charge of the business, his father owning and conducting a farm. On attaining his majority Nathaniel took the business on his own account and conducted it about five years. At that time the manufacture of buttons and other articles of metallic ware had become an important industry in the adjoining town of Waterbury, and he decided to engage in it. Beginning with implements and tools involving only hand labor, he soon introduced machinery of various kinds. Among other articles, he made polished steel slides, for ladies. These had before been imported from Europe, and Mr. Wheeler was among the first in this country to engage in making them. The price was at first eight dollars per gross, but was finally reduced to twenty-five cents per gross, at which low price, by his improvements in machinery and methods, he was able to make a profit. Other articles of his manufacture were buckles and slides for hat bands. These were also made, in the same town, by Messrs. Warren and Woodruff. This firm was interested in the Warren and Newton Manufacturing Company, engaged in the neighboring village of Oakville, in the manufacture of suspenders. Warren and Woodruff joined both their interests with that of Mr. Wheeler in 1848, and a partnership was formed, under the name of Warren, Wheeler and Woodruff, and a new building was erected for the business, of which Mr. Wheeler taking the whole charge, it was soon placed on a footing of substantial success.

On one of his business trips to New York he heard of the Wilson sewing machine, which was then exhibited in a room in the old "Sun" building, 128 Fulton street. He examined it, saw its possibilities, and at once contracted with E. Lee and Company to make five hundred of the machines. He also engaged Mr. Wilson to go with him to Watertown to perfect the machine and superintend its manufacture.

Their relations with Lee and Company soon ceased, and within a short time Mr. Wilson substituted for the shuttle the rotary hook and bobbin, now so well known. He had made in New York a model of a machine with this new device, and





THE ST. LOUIS POST-DESCRIPTOR

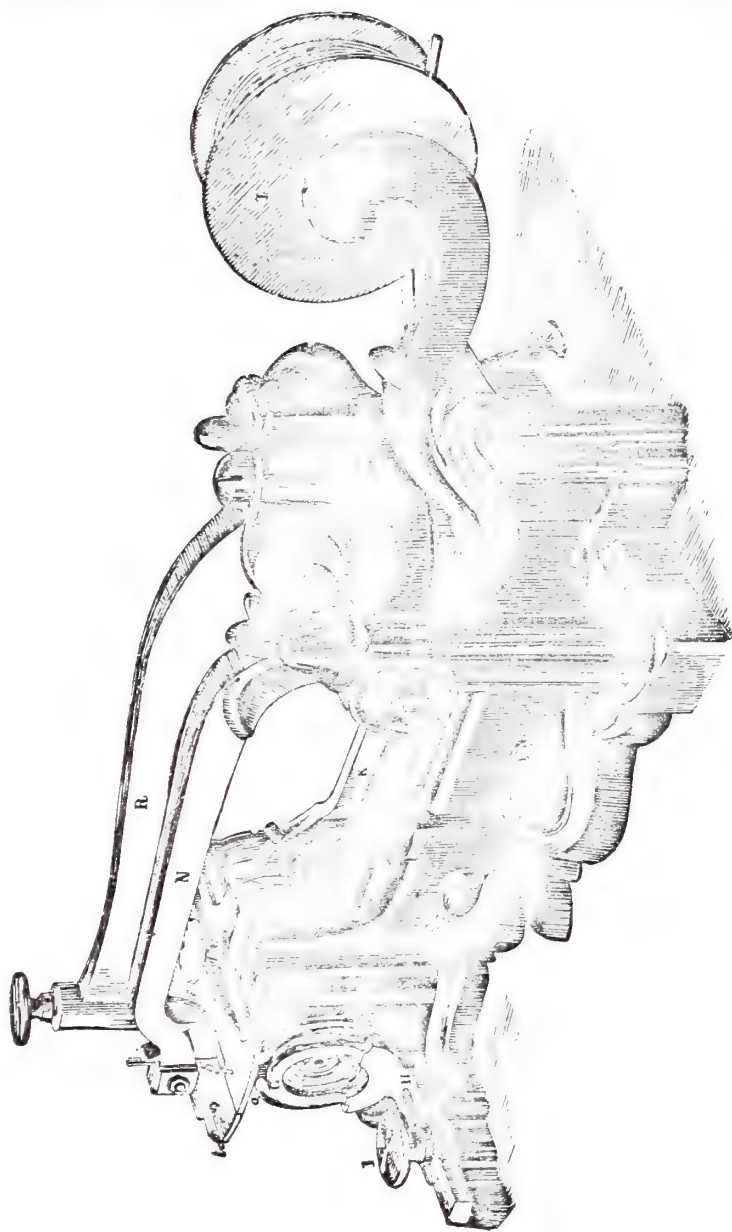
A. Wheeler

had carried it with him to Watertown, and now showed it to Mr. Wheeler, who highly approved of it. Mr. Wilson now labored to perfect the new machine, with the substitution referred to, and secured the patent for it August 12, 1851. On the same date Isaac M. Singer received his first patent on the machine which has since been so formidable a competitor to the Wheeler and Wilson machine. The main features of Mr. Singer's machine were, that the needle was straight, moving vertically at the end of a stationary arm, and that the feed was by means of a roughened wheel, which, it was claimed, was an improvement on Wilson's two-motion feed, since it had no backward movement while in contact with the cloth. It had, however, the defect of touching the cloth only at a very small portion of its periphery. It was inferior to the later four-motion feed of Mr. Wilson. This wheel-feed of Singer was, moreover, an infringement on Wilson's patent of 1850. The principle of the automatic feed, covered by that patent, was the including between a roughened surface on the under side and a smooth surface on the upper side, so that the cloth would be held in place while the needle was carrying the thread through it, and, on the withdrawing the needle, would be pushed forward the length of a stitch, at the same time permitting the cloth to be turned in either direction, to form a curve or angle in the seam.

Messrs. Warren, Wheeler, Woodruff and Wilson now formed a new copartnership, under the name of Wheeler, Wilson and Co., and began the new machines under the new patent. This patent was for the combination of a rotary hook, which extended or opened more widely the loop of the needle thread, with a reciprocating bobbin, which carried another thread through the loop so extended. To avoid litigation, Mr. Wilson contrived the stationary bobbin, which has since been the permanent feature of the Wheeler and Wilson sewing machine. This rotary hook was an entirely novel device.

Having begun the manufacture of the machine the next step was to introduce it to the public. Mr. Wheeler took one of the machines to O. F. Winchester, now at the head of the Winchester Repeating Arms Company, then largely en-

gaged in the manufacture of shirts at New Haven, Conn. Mr. Winchester refused even to try it; but Mr. Wheeler had a shirt made wholly on the machine, Mr. Wilson's wife being the

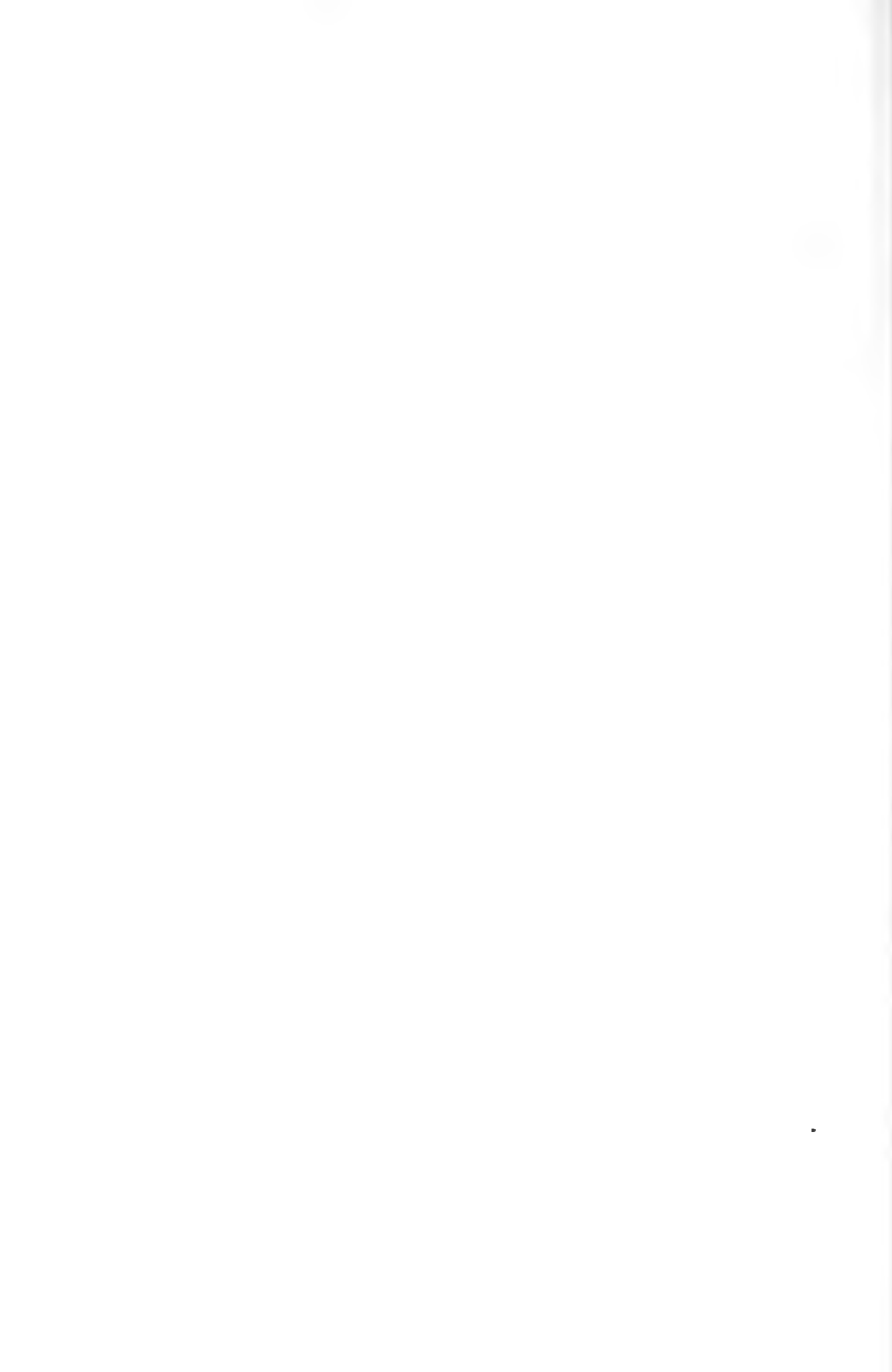


THE ORIGINAL WHEELER AND WILSON SEWING MACHINE AS CONSTRUCTED IN 1852.

operator; whereupon Mr. Winchester, struck by the beauty of the work, at once purchased the right in the machine for the county of New Haven. Mr. Wheeler then carried two of the machines to Troy, N. Y., and left them with J. Gardner, a leading shirt manufacturer there. After a trial of them for three weeks Mr. Gardner came to Watertown and purchased the one-half right to sell the machine in Rensselaer County, N. Y., for \$3,000. Mr. Wheeler now devoted himself to the introduction of the machine, especially in New York, Boston and Philadelphia. Several hundred machines had been sold when, in October, 1853, the Wheeler and Wilson Manufacturing Company was organized. The business now had become so well established that various parties desired to obtain an interest in it, and a proposition was made to Messrs. Wheeler, Wilson and Co. that a joint stock company should be organized, with a capital of \$160,000, of which \$100,000 was to be allowed for the patent, and \$60,000 for the factory and machinery. The firm, meanwhile, engaged to sell stock to outside parties to the amount of \$70,000, at par. The parties who subscribed for the stock gave their notes, which, however, they were not called on to pay, the dividends from the earnings of the company liquidating them as they became due.

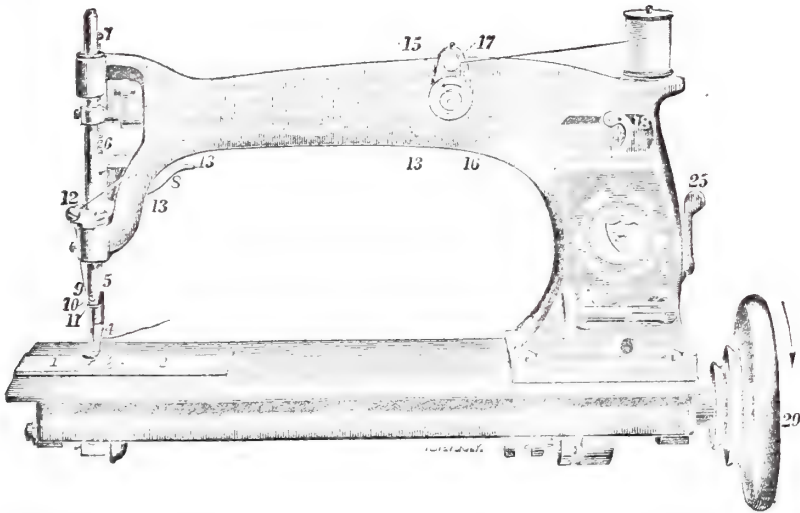
Mr. Wilson at this time retired from active participation in the business, while in consideration of the value of his inventions, he received a regular salary, without personal service, and considerable sums of money on the renewal of his patents. He has resided at Waterbury since 1863, where he owns an estate of some twenty-five acres, with a commodious residence. Among his out buildings is a shop well furnished with tools and machinery for working in wood and metals, affording him ample facilities for the gratification of his mechanical taste. Here he has perfected several inventions. On the 19th of December, 1854, he patented his four-motion feed, whereby the flat, toothed surface, being in contact with the cloth, is moved forward, carrying the cloth with it, then drops a little, so as not to touch the cloth, then moves backward, then rises up against the cloth, and is again ready for the first motion. This feed is at once simple and effective.

In 1865 Mr. Wilson erected a fine hotel, with a large public hall, at North Adams, Mass.



The manufactory was continued at Watertown until 1856, when, owing to the increase of the business, the property of the Jerome Clock Company, at Bridgeport, was purchased. Additions to the old brick factory already on the premises, were made from time to time. A portion of these buildings, including the clock factory, was burned December 12, 1875, but was at once rebuilt.

In the work shops of the company are made the needles and other minor attachments needed for the great variety of work to which the machine is adapted. Extensive shops are also devoted to the cabinet work. The new finish of the latter by the use of the wood-filling, was patented January 18, 1876, by Mr. Wheeler. This invention is of value, not only to manufacturers of sewing machines, but in every line of cabinet work in which it is desirable to give a high polish to hard woods. The process occupies less than one-half of the time, and the materials cost much less than in any of the processes previously in use.



WHEELER AND WILSON'S "D, 10" MACHINE, FIRST PRODUCED IN OCTOBER, 1885.

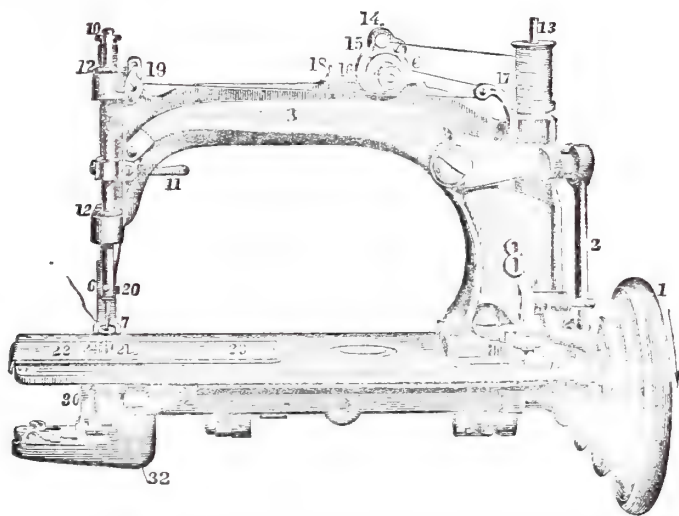
Various improvements of this machine have been made from time to time, by the expenditure of nearly \$500,000 upon experiments, resulting in the "Improved Wheeler and Wilson machine, Nos. 6, 7 and 8." To the two first awards



were made at Vienna in 1873, and at Philadelphia in 1876, corresponding to the awards to the old machine at London in 1862, and at Paris in 1867.

Machines adapted to various kinds of work, both on leather and cloth, have been produced in the best styles and with the most advantageous improvements.

Mr. Wheeler took a leading part in forming the combination, in 1856, of the principal sewing machine companies. The three companies which were parties in it, the Wheeler and Wilson, the Singer, and the Grover and Baker, had begun business about the same time, and the patents under which they were working were granted between November 12, 1850, and August 12, 1851.



WHEELER AND WILSON NO. 8 MACHINE AS CONSTRUCTED IN 1885.

The officers of the Wheeler and Wilson company at its organization, were: Alanson Warren, President; George P. Woodruff, Secretary and Treasurer; and Nathaniel Wheeler, General Manager. Mr. Warren resigned his office in 1855, and Mr. Wheeler was elected president, retaining the office of general manager. Mr. Woodruff resigned his offices in 1855, being succeeded by William H. Perry.

Mr. Wheeler has represented his district in the State Senate, and was also one of the commissioners for the build-



ing the State Capitol at Hartford, the greatest public enterprise ever undertaken by the State.

William H. Perry is a native of Woodstock, Conn., and when a young man was a school teacher; after which he was employed by his brother, who was a contractor in the armory of Samuel Colt, at Hartford, Conn. Having acquired in this employment practical skill as a machinist, he engaged with his brother to execute a portion of the latter's contract. In 1855 he went to Watertown, Conn., and became book-keeper in the office of the Wheeler and Wilson Manufacturing Company, and was appointed the next year superintendent of the factory. In July, 1856, he was elected secretary and treasurer, which offices, with that of superintendent, he still holds.

The principal buildings of this company, situated in the east district of Bridgeport, on East Washington avenue, consist of a main factory for metal working, assembling, testing, etc., occupying one complete square, 368 by 307 feet, under one roof; a wood-working factory, covering a second square, 526 by 219 feet; a foundry and needle factory upon a third, 368 by 232 feet; the works altogether covering over seven acres of ground.

The main machinery room is that in which the principal mechanical operations are performed in the production of the metal parts of the sewing machines. This fire proof room is L-shaped, 300 feet in length, 219 feet in width in one part, and 100 in the other. Power is distributed from four main lines of shafting, which have not perceptibly deviated from correct adjustment since they were first placed in position.

The Howe Sewing Machine Company was organized in 1865, and located on Kossuth street, Bridgeport.

Elias Howe, Jr., was born at Spencer, Mass., in 1819, his father being a farmer and miller. Here he resided until 1835, when, with his parents' reluctant consent, he went to Lowell, Mass., to learn a trade in a large cotton mill, where he continued until the financial troubles of 1837. Being then out of work he went to Cambridge, where he obtained employment on the new hemp carding machine invented by





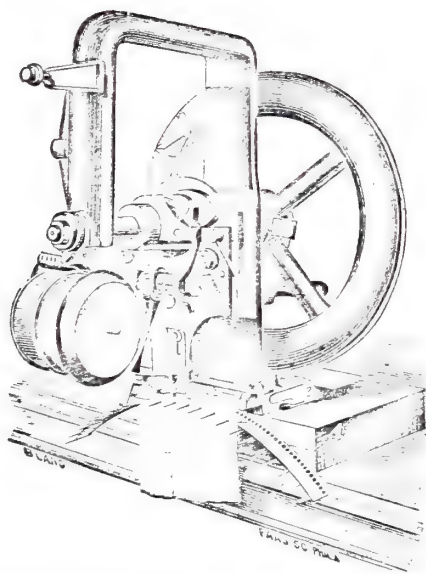
ELIAS HOWE, JR.

Prof. Treadwell. His cousin, Nathaniel P. Banks, since speaker of the House of Representatives and Major General, worked in the same shop with him. From this place he went to Boston, to the shop of Ari Davis, where he heard a sewing machine first mentioned as a mechanical possibility. At twenty-one years of age he married, and continued a journeyman machinist. About 1843 he began to investigate the proposition of making a sewing machine in hope of securing a better fortune than the wages of a journeyman would ever give. Hundreds of hours of both night and day he studied and worked, but without success, until one day in 1844 the idea flashed upon him of using two threads and forming a stitch by the aid of a shuttle and a curved needle with the



eye near the point, and he then felt he had invented a sewing machine. In October of the same year he had demonstrated, by a rough model, that such a machine would sew, but he was poor, having ceased to be a journeyman, and the days of darkness were upon him.

Under these circumstances he sought help, and found it in a friend named George Fisher, and by him, upon the value of half the invention, was placed in circumstances where he could construct a machine, although under great want of advantages. All the winter of 1844-5 Mr. Howe worked on his machine and in April he sewed a seam with it, and by the middle of May, 1845, he had completed his work. In July he sewed with his machine all the seams of two suits of woolen clothes, one for Mr. Fisher and the other for himself. This first machine, after crossing the ocean many times, and figuring as a dumb, but irrefutable witness, in many a court, is still preserved. The accompanying cut illustrates the first sewing machine made by Elias Howe, Jr., completed in April, 1845, and claimed by him to have "sewed the first seam made by machinery."

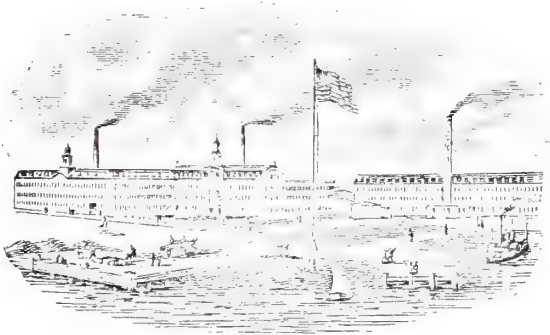


FIRST SEWING MACHINE MADE BY ELIAS HOWE, JR.



Mr. Howe now worked another year to make a model to deposit in the patent office, which was accomplished, and his patent issued September 10, 1846.

Two years Mr. Howe labored to introduce his machine both in America and England, when he returned from the latter country with only half a crown as the income for all his labors on the invention. Upon his return he found a number of sewing machines in the field of curiosity and competition, and then followed numberless vexations and some law suits. A statement in a historical sketch of Mr. Howe's work says, that by the time the extension of Mr. Howe's patent expired in 1867, the amount he had received for his machines did not "fall short of two million dollars," or that, "as Mr. Howe had devoted twenty-seven years of his life to the invention and development of the sewing machine, the public had compensated him at the rate of \$75,000 a year. It had cost him, however, immense sums to defend his rights, and he was then very far from being the richest of the sewing machine kings."

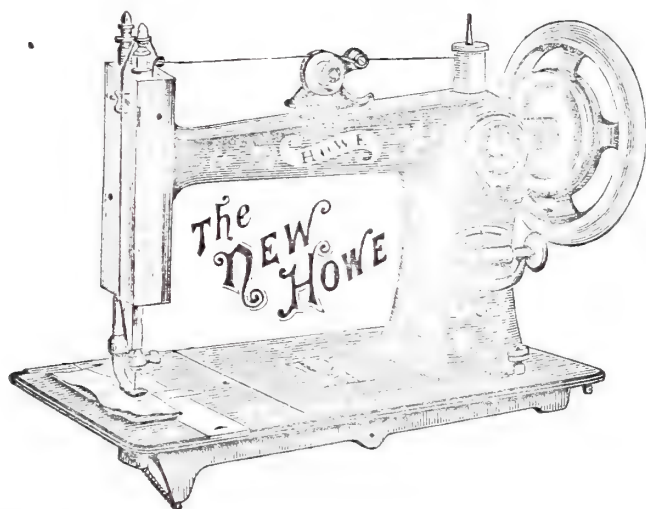


BUILDINGS OF THE HOWE MACHINE COMPANY.

The buildings for the manufacture of the Howe machines were erected in Bridgeport in 1865, and formed an extensive and imposing establishment on the eastern bank of the harbor, in full view from the railroad station and the public travel, and they are somewhat represented in the accompanying miniature engraving. A considerable portion of these buildings were destroyed by fire in 1883, but soon after rebuilt, although not to the full extent of the older buildings.



An illustration of the latest improvements and most complete machine of this company is here inserted to exhibit the historical progress of this enterprise as contrasted with the machine when first made and patented.



The American Hand Sewing Machine Company occupies a part of the Bridgeport Power Company's building on South avenue. It was organized in 1884, with the following officers, who are the same still: President, John J. Marvin, of New York; Secretary and Treasurer, E. R. Pearsall, of New York; Manager, A. M. Barber, of Bridgeport. The principal office and salesroom is in New York. The company manufacture a hand sewing machine, which was patented October 21, 1884, and it is as ingenious an invention as has been placed upon the market for many years. It has also been patented in Europe and every country having patent laws.

The machine is complete in every detail, may be turned or run by either hand in any position, and so easily that a child can use it. It will make a perfect stitch through half a dozen thicknesses of heavy woolen goods, and makes 250 stitches a minute. It is a shuttle machine, but the patent covers, also, the chain and loop stitch. The skill displayed in making the complicated machinery and tools for the con-



struction of the different parts shows but little less inventive ability than in producing the machine itself. The perfect fitting of every part is as necessary as in the construction of a watch. Some idea of the expense of making these machines may be obtained by looking into the tool room, where may be seen a few implements, such as could almost be carried away in a person's arms, which represent an expense of \$8,000—this for producing only one portion of the machine.

The factory is fully equipped for the construction of the entire machine, even to the nickel plating used upon it.

At present they employ but fifty hands, most of them skilled mechanics who came to this city with the organizers of the company. The business, although just started, gives promise of exceeding the greatest expectations of the company, for up to the present time they have been unable to produce the machine as fast as demanded for market, but they propose soon to be able to complete one thousand a day. A hand bobbin, which winds with an automatic thread guide, accompanies each machine, which is claimed to be an improvement on anything now in the market.

Mr. Adin M. Barber, who has obtained several patents, is the patentee, likewise, of a machine for cutting saw blades, by which many are cut at one movement of the machine. This he has sold to the Diamond Saw Company, in which he is also interested.

The Warner Brothers Corset Manufactory.—Prominent among the industries of Bridgeport is the corset factory of Warner Brothers, situated upon the south side of the railroad near Seaside Park, and having a frontage of 537 feet upon Lafayette, Atlantic and Warren streets. It is built of brick with blue stone trimmings, and is impressive from its size and extensive frontage rather than from any beauty of architecture.

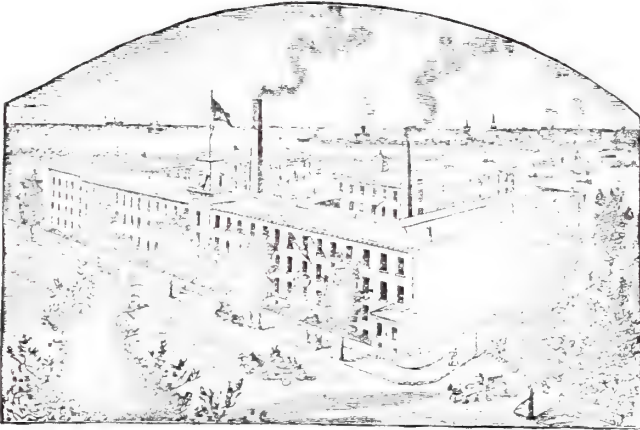
The interior of the factory is fitted up with more than usual care and taste. The rooms are high and nicely furnished, heated with steam, having abundance of light and good ventilation. Two engines from the Pacific Iron Works, of forty horse power each, are employed to furnish the power for five hundred sewing machines, beside eyelet machines,



steam presses, and two hundred machines for the manufacture of "Coraline," a special article made only by this firm, and used by them in place of whalebone for stiffening their corsets.

The capacity of the factory is about 6,000 corsets daily, and it gives employment to from 1,000 to 1,200 hands, about seven-eighths of whom are women. The average wages of the corset stitchers is from eight to ten dollars per week, and as the work is very clean and tidy it is much sought after by the better class of help.

This factory was first established in Bridgeport in 1876, since which time it has been enlarged four times and more



THE MANUFACTORY OF THE WARNER BROTHERS.

than quadrupled in size. It is the just boast of the proprietors that their factory has never been shut down a single working day, except for necessary repairs, it has never run on short hours, and no help has ever been discharged for the purpose of reducing production.

Beside the manufacture of corsets the Messrs. Warrar Brothers are also largely engaged in making base balls; the production this year averaging about 3,000 balls daily. This industry occupies about one-sixth of the factory and gives employment to 300 hands during the greater part of the year. The firm consists of Dr. I. DeVer Warner, who resides in Bridgeport and has charge of the manufacture of the goods,





J. De Ver Warner





SEA SIDE INSTITUTE.

This building was erected by Warner Brothers for the use of their employees in 1887. It comprises a Restaurant, Free Reading Room, Library, Bath Rooms, a large Public Hall, and Rooms for Evening Classes. It is a very elegant and substantial building of granite, brownstone and pressed brick, costing \$60,000, and is located on the corner of Lafayette and Atlantic streets, Bridgeport.

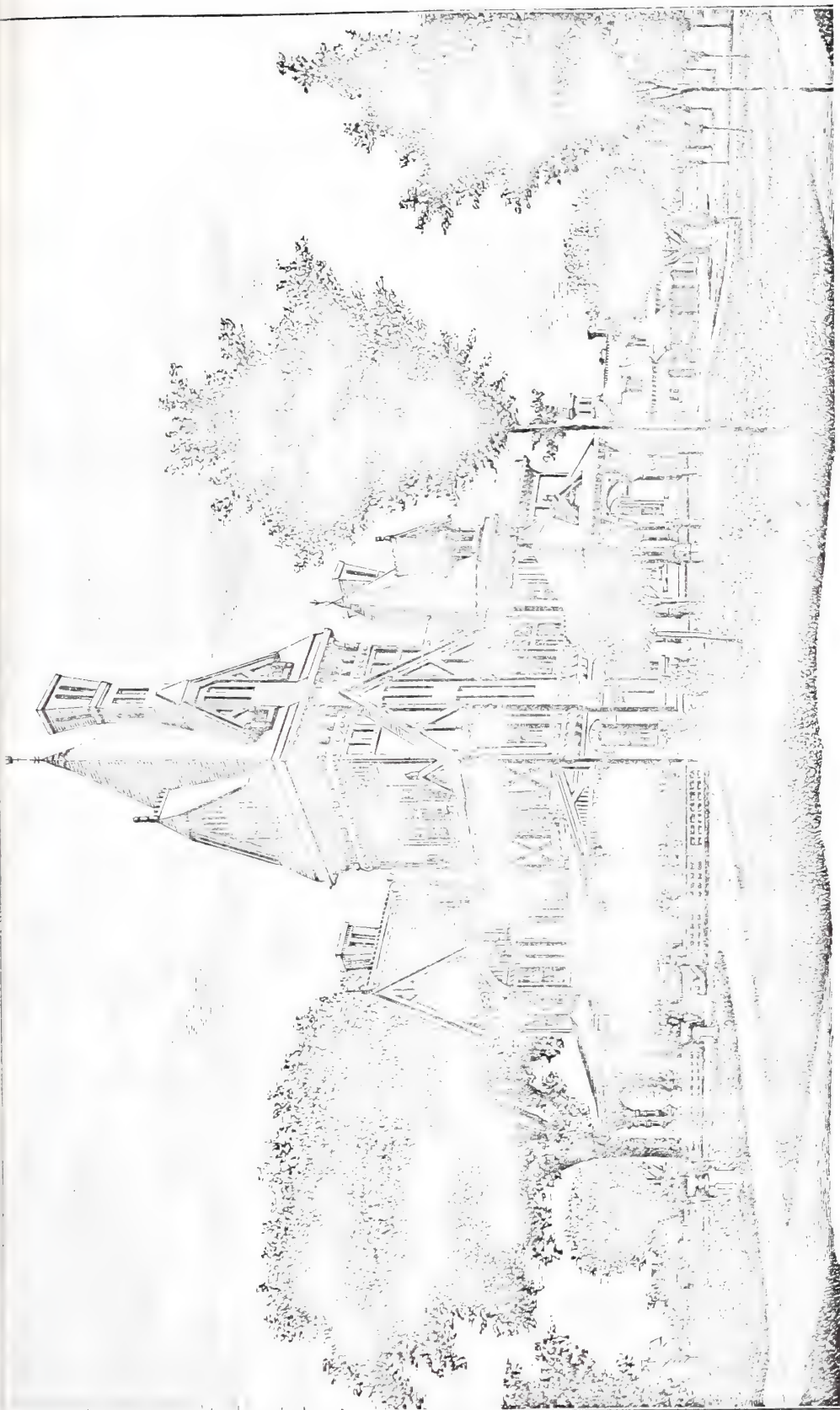


and Dr. Lucien C. Warner, who resides in New York and has charge of the sales. They are natives of central New York, though their ancestors are of New England descent. They were both educated as physicians, Dr. I. D. Warner graduating in 1862, and Dr. L. C. Warner in 1866. Previous to 1874 they were engaged in the work of their profession, part of the time practicing medicine at Cortland, New York, and part of the time lecturing throughout the country on hygiene and kindred topics.

The transition from the practice of medicine to the manufacture of corsets is not so difficult as at first appears. The intelligent physician is bound to consider the question of dress in its relation to health. Corsets, as they were worn twelve years ago, were mostly instruments of torture. Their shape had little suggestion of the "human form divine," and the chief thought seemed to have been to make them as stiff and unyielding as possible. Fashionable modistes failed to recognize that a corset which prevented the natural bending and twisting of the body, not only was unhealthy and uncomfortable, but also unsightly. Only that degree of rigidity is required which will prevent the dress from wrinkling at the waist and if the corset is properly fitted to the figure this can be accomplished without seriously restricting the ease and graceful movements of the body. Physicians had long recognized the evils of ill-fitting and rigid corsets, but they lacked the mechanical skill and business sagacity to work out the needed reformation. This the Drs. Warner possessed, for they had a natural taste for invention and business, which their professional training had not been able to obliterate. A few corsets were first made for their own lady patients, and these were received with so great favor that they soon abandoned their practice and devoted their entire time to the development and extension of their business. This has been prosperous beyond all precedent. Within five years they were in the very front rank of corset makers of this country, and to-day their name is recognized throughout both Europe and America as that of the leading corset house of the world.

The superior shape and style of the corsets which the



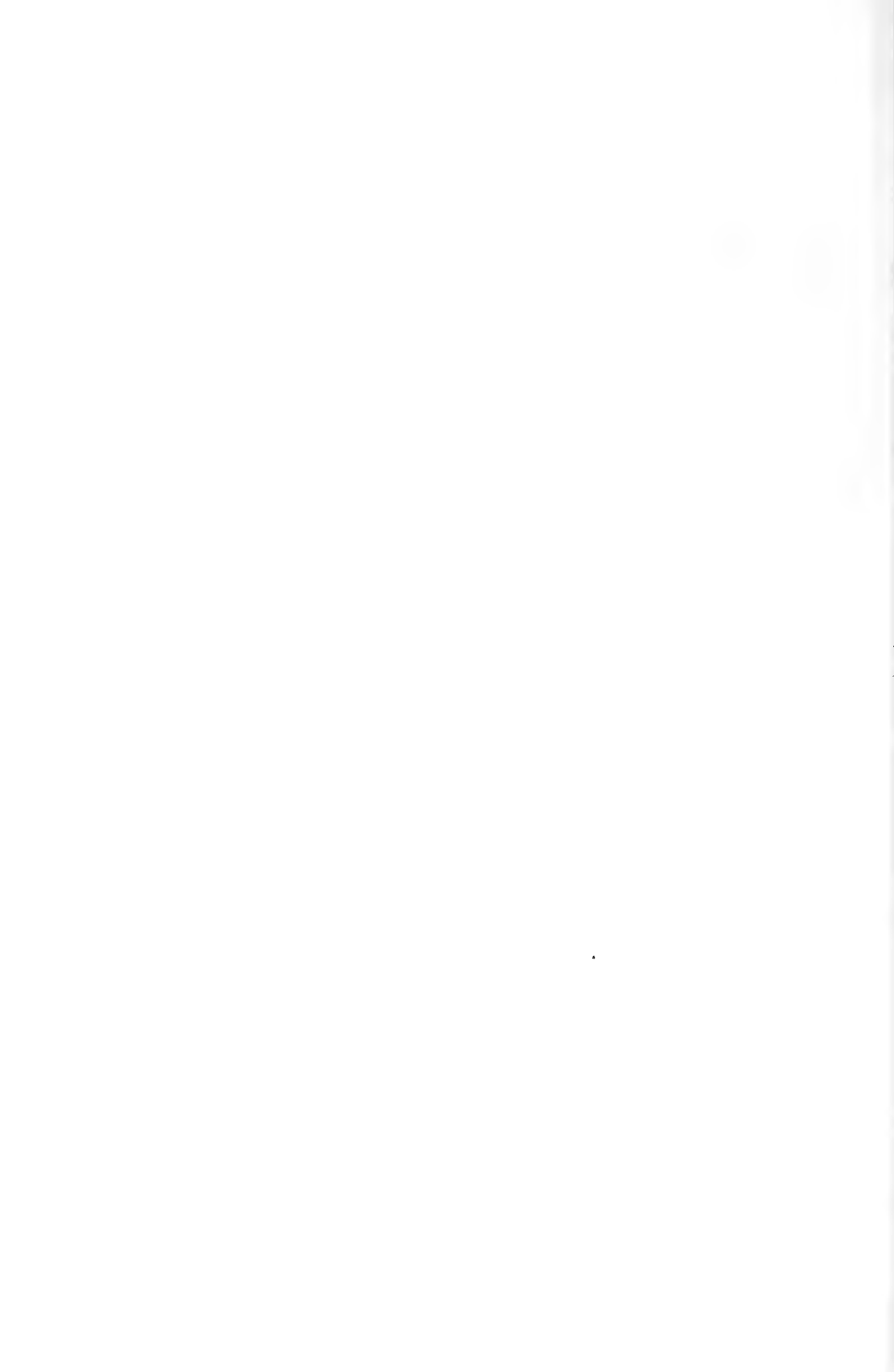




Drs. Warner introduced have been largely copied by other manufacturers, and thus a complete revolution has been made in the style of corsets worn in this country. Through their labor and influence a corset no longer means to a lady tight lacing, physical torture, contracted chest, and ruined health, but it performs the natural functions of a garment for preserving health, beauty and comfort.

The Bridgeport Corset Company are located on the corner of Noble avenue and Burroughs street. The proprietors are I. W. Birdsey and Company, W. C. Sherwood superintendent. They occupied at first a room in the building of the Howe Manufacturing Company until the fire of December, 1883, when they removed to their present place in what is known as the Frary Cutlery building. They began at first in a building 15 by 20 feet with the help of five or six persons, now they employ about 300 and make 150 dozen corsets per day. They have a branch house in Birmingham, Conn.,—the Birdsey Corset Company—and with the work of these two and two other companies their united production is 700 dozen per day. The one business house of these companies is 71 Leonard street, New York. In the manufacture of these goods whalebone is nearly excluded and tricorn fiber is used instead. Several complicated machines are used in this work. Everything in the business is so thoroughly systematized by the superintendent and furnished with machinery by the company that corsets can be made and sold at an exceedingly low price and comfortable dividends made to the stockholders.

Thomson, Langdon and Company, manufacturers of corsets, are located at the corner of Railroad and Myrtle avenues. The proprietors are Charles H. Langdon, of New York and W. A. Nettleton, of Bridgeport, who were established in 1876, but reorganized January 1, 1885, retaining the same name. They employ on an average 350 hands, their goods all being sold through the New York house, 70 Worth street. Their average daily product is 125 dozen corsets. Their building is finely located, 120 feet long and 40 wide, four stories in height. Their specialties are the Thomson glove-fitting corsets, and their patent unbreakable corset steels.



H. W. Lyon is corset manufacturer at 88 Middle street. He commenced at his present place, January 1, 1885, the making of the crown corset, having a standing contract for all he can produce. He was engaged previously with Thomson, Langdon and Company, in 1877, and began the manufacture of corsets by himself in 1880, at 25 State street, employing 250 hands, but after a time closed his business there. He then managed a branch manufactory for I. Newman and Co., of New Haven, located in Bridgeport.

Jerome B. Secor, manufacturer of sewing machines, is located on corner of Broad street and Railroad avenue. He came to this city in the autumn of 1870, from Chicago, Ill., with the Secor Machine Company. That company was dissolved in 1876, and he continued to manufacture machines in his own name. He employs about one hundred persons, manufacturing entirely on orders for the Avery and Empress machines. He is under contract to furnish 200 weekly of the Avery and 500 per month of the Empress, the latter being comparatively a new machine. All goods go to the New York house.

The Canfield Rubber Company, successors to Isaac A. Canfield, of Middletown, Conn., was incorporated and established here in February, 1885. They are located on Railroad avenue, corner of Myrtle. The officers are: Ratcliff Hicks, of New York, President; D. M. Baldwin, of Bridgeport, Treasurer; and H. O. Canfield, Manager. They employ forty hands and manufacture the Canfield seamless dress shields, and mould work of all kinds, and thousands of small goods of different styles. Soon after being established here they bought the rubber mould works of A. C. Andress, of New Haven, and have made a very successful beginning, up to the present time. They have two great advantages, the one is the complete furnishing of their establishment to make goods of all descriptions in their line, and the other is the fact that their foreman, Mr. H. O. Canfield, is not only thoroughly a practical man, but also skilled in the art of working the various materials of which the goods are constructed into the most perfect form and finish. The capital stock is \$50,000.



The history of the Canfields—father and son—in developing this line of goods is very interesting and extends over a number of years of practical study, in a rubber manufactory in Naugatuck, Conn.

The Bridgeport Paper Box Company, located at 76 Middle street, was established January 1, 1877. The firm consists of E. L. White, of Bridgeport, and E. W. Smith, of Waterbury, and they employ 150 hands and occupy the upper part of the large building on Middle street. They produce hundreds of different sizes and styles of square boxes, turning out 1000 daily. The business conducted with the machinery requires much skill and dexterity in making and finishing the boxes so rapidly.

Ives, Blakeslee and Company, manufacturers of toys and novelties, are located on Broad street and corner of Railroad avenue. The company was established by E. R. Ives and Cornelius Blakeslee, in the spring of 1868. In 1880 E. G. Williams, of New York, was added to the firm, and thus the company continues. They employ on an average forty persons in the factory here, but their branch manufactories, two in New York and one in Philadelphia, make a large number indirectly in their employ.

Their specialties are mechanical toys, Fourth of July and holiday goods, which, with all their goods, are handled through their New York house, at 297 Broadway, and sold largely by traveling representatives of their store. Their quarto illustrated catalogue of over thirty pages, and their octavo catalogue of 192 pages, represent somewhat adequately their line of products.

The Bridgeport Machine Tool Works, E. P. Bullard, of New York, proprietor, W. H. Bullard, of Bridgeport, manager, are located on the corner of Broad street and Railroad avenue. This business was established here in 1880, as a branch of the New York house, for the special purpose of making a particular line of goods—namely, the manufacture of lathes. They employ seventy-five hands, and a general increase has been and probably will be needed, since they are behind on orders. In the first fifteen months 180 lathes were



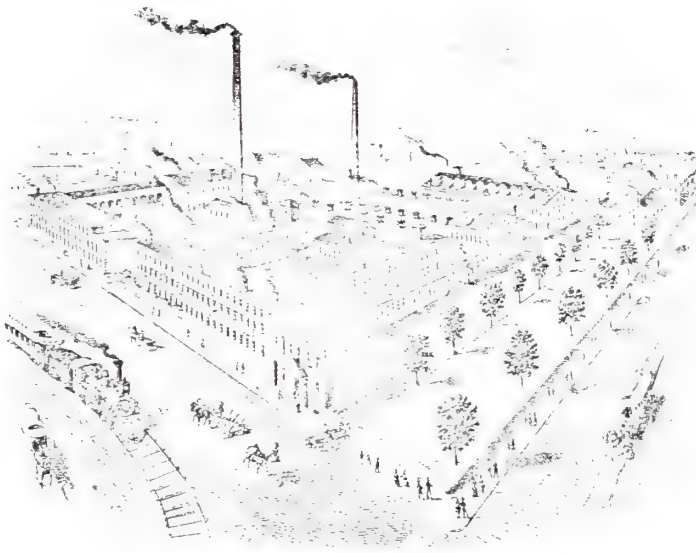
produced. The standard of its workmanship has been gradually increased, and it is recognized by mechanics at home and abroad as a superior instrument, furnished at a less price than other like tools, in proportion to its producing capacity.

The Bridgeport Brass Company is located on Crescent avenue, near East Main street. In 1865 D. W. Kissam, Samuel R. Wilmot and John Davol, owners of the Wilmot and Kissam Manufacturing Company, a corporation doing business in Brooklyn, N. Y., recognizing the advantages of Bridgeport as a manufacturing city, removed their business to this place and formed the Bridgeport Brass Company, with a capital of \$150,000, of which corporation John Davol was President; S. R. Wilmot, Treasurer; and D. W. Kissam, Secretary. In 1877 William H. Davol, son of John Davol, succeeded his father as president.

The company engaged in the general manufacture of brass wire, tubing and sheets, and also of many articles of which brass is the principal component part, specially of kerosene oil burners and lamps, in the manufacture of which a larger amount of brass is consumed than any one article for which brass is used; and they are still largely engaged in this branch of the business. In the year 1880 a considerable portion of the capital stock was purchased from the estate of John Davol by Charles M. Mitchell, George E. Somers, Charles A. Hamilton, and Fred. A. Mason, of Waterbury, Conn., and Charles L. Mitchell, of New Haven—present member of Congress from second district of Connecticut. Charles M. Mitchell became President; Fred. A. Mason, Vice President and Treasurer; George E. Somers, General Superintendent of the manufacturing department; D. W. Kissam remaining Secretary, which office he has filled since the organization of the company in 1865.

The company's business and manufacturing facilities have largely increased until they now occupy about two acres of ground in the heart of East Bridgeport, and employ about 300 workmen. Their pay roll amounts to \$150,000 per annum. They consume annually 2,500 tons of coal, and more than 2,000,000 pounds of copper and zinc, in the composition





Bridgeport Brass Co.



of brass. They run four engines of a combined horse power of five hundred.

Many branches have been added to their business, such as the manufacture of seamless brass and copper tubes, clock movements, insulated copper wire of all kinds, for electrical conductors.

This company were the first to introduce and manufacture what is known as hard drawn copper wire, of which many thousands of miles are now used for telegraphic and telephonic lines instead of iron, owing to its greater conductivity of the electrical fluid.

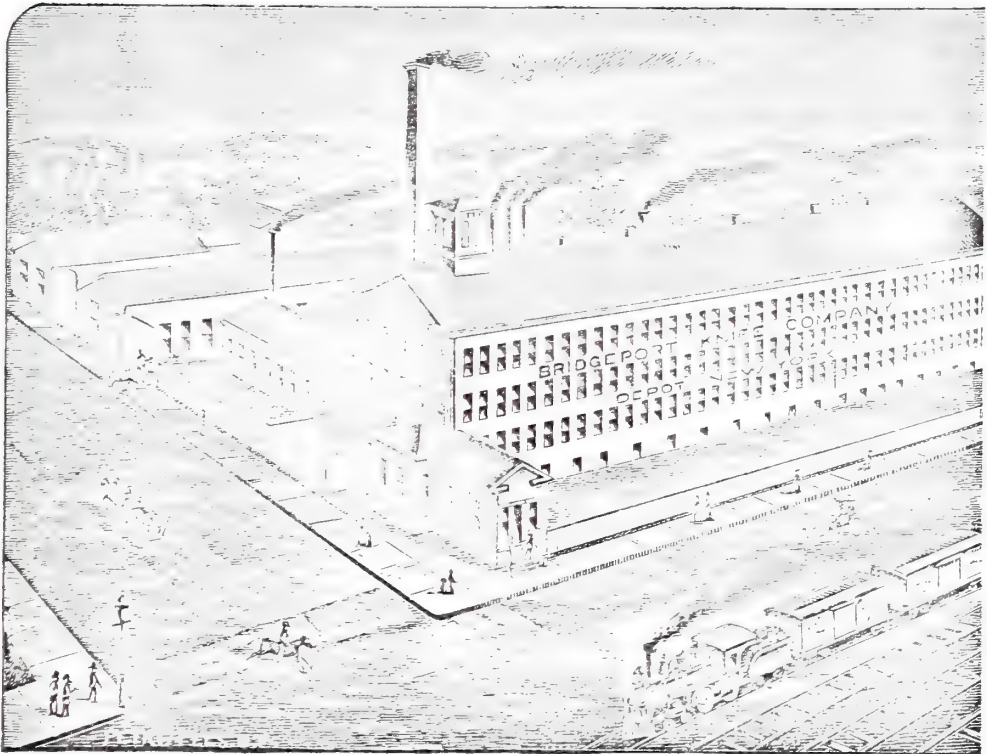
From the above record it may be seen that the amount of the annual pay roll equals the amount of capital stock, and therefore an immense amount of sales must be effected.

Mr. B. McGovern, manufacturer of tools and machines. This business may be described as that of a machinist, tool and model maker, and manufacturer of automatic and special machinery, dies, punches, brass, steel, and all descriptions of light metallic goods and hardware. Besides these articles Mr. McGovern manufactures Brooks' patent combination padlock and Reinhardt's numbering machine, and several devices of his own invention; among them are a "safety stirrup," the "cowboy's friend," the "anti-rattlers," and others. A specialty is "McGovern's combination Lock." At present Mr. McGovern is employing about forty hands. His shop is located on the corner of Noble and Sterling streets.

The Bridgeport Knife Company was organized in 1876, and are located on East Washington avenue, corner Hallett street; capital stock \$100,000. They manufacture table knives and forks in a large variety of styles, and other household goods. Their present production is 18,000 knives and forks per day, employing over 300 persons. Their agents canvass every State and Territory in the Union, and all important places are visited by these salesmen at least every two months. Considerable attention has been given to exports, especially to South America, on both the east and west coast. In the first week of March, 1886, they shipped

goods to the following places: Callao, Arequipa, Molende, Cumana, Iquique, Lima La Pay, Arica, and Para. It takes from two to three months to reach some of the interior places of South America. Goods for this purpose are shipped to the ports of that country packed in boxes not exceeding fifty pounds weight, and then transported on pack mules to their places of destination. These boxes are lined with tin to prevent the articles from being injured by rust. The new catalogue of this company of 114 pages, describes nearly 1,000 different kinds of cutlery. By a telegraph code, distant merchants are enabled to order large assortments of goods with very few words, by which delays of shipment and much expense of traveling are avoided.

In the manufacture of these goods a large amount of



BUILDINGS OF THE BRIDGEPORT KNIFE COMPANY.



machinery is required, a great portion of which has been designed by this company. Such has been the sale of their goods that during 1885 they have continued their business in all departments on full time. The officers are: President, Anton Trunk; Vice-President, C. J. Healy, of New York; Secretary and Treasurer, W. H. Bliss; who are also the directors.

Glover Sanford and Sons, hat manufacturers, are located at 318 Crescent avenue. The members of this company came from the town of Bridgewater, in Litchfield county, Conn., where Glover Sanford had conducted the manufacture of hats from the year 1823, until his sons became associated with him, and the firm of Glover Sanford and Sons continued the same business there until their removal to Bridgeport.

In 1877 they purchased the site and buildings known as the Williams Silk Mills, and upon that site built their present buildings—the main building being 375 feet in length and 50 in width, three stories in height. They employ on an average 200 hands, and turn out 200 dozen hats per day, but have the capacity of 550 dozen per day. They make men's, boy's, children's, and ladies' felt hats of three hundred styles, there being seventy-five different processes each hat passes through before it is finished. The business requires a 150-horse power engine and a 450 boiler. The building is furnished with patent sprinklers, so that in case of fire any room could be flooded with water in a few minutes. It is probably one of the most completely arranged and well furnished manufactories in the country, and deserves the remarkable success it possesses. Glover Sanford, the founder and father, died May 30, 1878, after enjoying for a time a satisfactory reward for the many struggles of his earlier life. Frederick S. Sanford, one of the sons, died in 1876; Charles H., Homer B., and Edward G. Sanford, other sons, are living and actively engaged in the business. Charles H., Jr., Frederick H., son of Homer B., and Glover E., son of Edward G. Sanford, are also engaged with their fathers in the business.

The Bridgeport Power Company have a large brick building on the corner of Water street and South avenue, and



besides their specialty in the manufacture of squares, they furnish power and room for several other manufacturing enterprises. They have a capital stock, paid in, of \$65,000, and employ fifteen hands. The officers are: H. Kelsey, President and Treasurer; Frank B. Bradley, Secretary and Manager.

The Bridgeport Tack Works are located in the buildings of the Bridgeport Power Company, and they manufacture tacks of every description, making a three-penny, fine steel, polished nail a specialty. The business was established in September, 1884, by Mr. E. Gowdy, the proprietor. He employs about ten hands, making up thirty tons of stock monthly. The advantage of machinery is here seen in the fact that one boy attends six machines.

Mr. W. E. Fitzgerald is located in the Bridgeport Power Company's buildings, corner of South avenue and Water street. He was established here July 1, 1884, and manufactures button hooks and other specialties.

The Diamond Saw Company is located in the Bridgeport Power Company's building, with a capital of \$100,000. The officers are: C. B. Newcomb, of New York, President; W. S. Edwards, of Boston, Treasurer and Manager; J. D. Edwards, of Bridgeport, Superintendent. Their main office is in Boston. They are successors to M. Brown and Company, incorporated under New York State laws, but established in this city July 1, 1885. They have only just commenced the production of saws, employing from forty to fifty hands, but when in full operation will turn out 20,000 weekly. They can manufacture saws of any description and very rapidly, owning the so-called Hack machine, which cuts sixty blades at a time. They own, also, the patent Hack frame, and make the butcher or meat saws on the same plan. The business is very successful.

The Compressed Paper Box Company is located in the buildings of the Bridgeport Power Company, and they manufacture patent pressed paper boxes of many descriptions, round and square, paper cans, and strong paper boxes specially



for hardware. They were established December 1, 1883, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The officers are: Amos S. Treat, President; W. E. Baillie, Secretary and Treasurer; Jonathan Godfrey, Superintendent. They manufacture on orders only, the Union Metallic Cartridge Company taking most of their productions.

The Ashcroft Manufacturing Company have just come to Bridgeport from Boston, and erected a new building during the winter of 1885 and 6, 200 feet long by 50 wide, four stories high, but which is not quite finished. They will employ 250 hands, many of them coming with the company from Boston the first of May next. Charles A. Moore, of New York, is President and General Manager; Martin Luscomb, Secretary and Treasurer; H. F. Manning, Assistant Treasurer; and G. W. Richardson, Superintendent. There is to be a foundry 60 feet by 40, connected with it, although a large part of their goods are made of brass.

The Knapp and Cowles Manufacturing Company were successors to Cowles Hardware Company, and they to Cowles and Company, and they to David A. Keys, who was the original manufacturer of the first mincing knives made in America, to be placed upon the market. The original manufacturer and the two successors were located at Unionville, in the town of Farmington, Conn. The leading articles produced at that place by the first companies were the mincing knife and screw drivers, and these were placed in the markets only of New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

The Knapp and Cowles Company came to Bridgeport and commenced the erection of their commodious brick factory on Railroad avenue and Garden street, in July, 1884, and in November of the same year removed their entire business to these new buildings.

The company have increased their variety of screw drivers until, instead of one, they manufacture four patterns, including nearly fifty sizes and kinds, which are disposed of, as all their articles are, in the principal cities of the United States, the Canadas, and foreign markets. The mincing knife



is still a leading staple, but twenty-four varieties are now produced instead of one at first. To these have been added a full line of garden tools, a variety of hammock and clothes line hooks, ice tools, awls, carpet stretchers, box scrapers and openers. They are also making the geers spring hinge, and a line of specialties in the house furnishing goods. They employ about thirty men, and as an illustration of the facility with which they manufacture goods, it may be stated that they produce in the one leading article about 150 dozen screw drivers per day.

The present officers are: L. S. Catlin, President; F. W. Stevens, Vice-President; George S. Knapp, Treasurer and General Manager; and Martin Cowles, Secretary and Superintendent.

The David M. Read and Company are merchants and carpet manufacturers. As large manufacturers of carpets they merit a record among the industries of Bridgeport.

David M. Read was born at Hoosac Falls, N. Y. His parents soon after removed to North Adams, Mass., where he passed most of his boyhood life, attending the district school and then the academy. He served as dry goods clerk in Williamstown, Stockbridge and Lenox, and in 1857 he came to Bridgeport and entered the employ of E. Birdsey and Company, with whom he remained until August, 1857. Then, having saved about \$1,500, he obtained as much more of Hanford Lyon, and associating with him W. B. Hall, opened a dry goods and carpet store at 227 Main street. This firm continued at the old stand until May, 1869, when the store was removed to Wheeler's block, corner of Main street and Fairfield avenue, where it still remains. The partnership of Hall and Read continued until August 1, 1877, when Mr. Hall withdrew, and the business was continued by Mr. Read until the summer of 1885, when the organization of a stock company was effected, and the first floor and basement of two buildings, instead of one, were occupied, forming a very popular and elegant place of business. The business of Hall and Read increased rapidly—as did also the city of Bridgeport—their sales amounting at one time to \$500,000 a year. During the panics of 1857, 1861, and 1873, this house remained firm, and





David M. Read



at their dissolution enjoyed the distinction of having always paid one hundred cents on the dollar.

Mr. Read, with his brother, Charles A. Read, began the manufacture of ingrain carpets, in a small way, in Water street, with two hand looms. Afterwards they purchased their present location on Middle street, and increased their business until they were operating twenty looms. In 1873 a stock company was formed with a capital of \$55,000, under the name of the Read Carpet Company, David M. Read being president and selling agent. This company owns the block on the corner of Fairfield avenue and Middle street, with a frontage of one hundred feet on the former and two hundred on the latter, and have recently added a block adjoining, of one hundred and twenty by sixty-six feet. This establishment has been furnished with fifty power looms for the purpose of manufacturing ingrain, Brussels, and Axminster carpets, with a capacity of 450,000 yards per year.

Mr. Read has been first alderman of the city of Bridgeport, a member of the Common Council, member of the Board of Education, and member of the school committee. He is a director in the Bridgeport National Bank, and, with the exception of the first year, has been president of the Board of Trade since its organization. He is also a director in the Mountain Grove Cemetery Association and the Fairfield County Agricultural Society. He was a member of the Connecticut National Guard for eight years as a brigade commissary, with the rank of major, and was an efficient officer. He was acting commissary-general at the encampment of the Connecticut National Guard at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, and was highly complimented by General Trowbridge for the executive ability displayed in the management of his department. He is a member of the vestry of St. John's Church.

On December 3, 1855, he married Helen Augusta, daughter of the late Philo F. Barnum. They have two sons: Charles Barnum, treasurer in the D. M. Read Company, and David F., who graduated at Yale College in 1883, and is manager of the New York office of the Read Carpet Company, and one daughter, May Louise. One daughter, Helen A., died October 13, 1872. His residence is on Park avenue.



Bridgeport Malleable Iron Company are located at the corner of Railroad avenue and South street. This business was first established here by Mr. Henry Atwater, who came from the Tuttle and Whitmore Company, of Naugatuck, and employed twenty-three men, with a capital of \$30,000. In January, 1879, six months after he came here, a stock company under the present name was formed, and the business continuing to increase a reorganization was effected with a capital of \$200,000, in May, 1884. Their buildings cover an area of four and a half acres, and they employ from 400 to 450 hands. They make malleable and gray iron castings, entirely upon orders, producing an endless variety, or in fact, anything that is wanted in this line, being the largest and most fully equipped establishment of the kind east of Cleveland, Ohio. They make some very heavy work. The officers are: J. H. Whittemore, of Naugatuck, President; W. K. Chase, Vice-President; W. A. Griffin, Treasurer; Henry Atwater, Secretary; and A. S. Wells, General Superintendent. All the officers except the president reside in Bridgeport.



BUILDINGS OF THE BRIDGEPORT ORGAN COMPANY.

The Bridgeport Organ Company is located on Railroad avenue, corner of Hancock, and was established June 1, 1877, Mr. J. T. Patterson, from Birmingham, Conn., proprietor. He manufactures organs and various kinds of musical



instruments, besides filling special orders, as desired. He employs 200 hands, most of his goods being made for export trade, having a branch house at 124 Holborn, London, where he keeps a heavy stock. His building is 400 feet long, 60 feet wide, and four stories high. A specialty is the orchestrone, a patented article, made on contract, in five different styles and sizes, and being the only party manufacturing them in this country.

The West End Mill is one of the buildings erected by the organ company. It is occupied by several manufacturing companies, and is located on the corner of Railroad and Hancock avenues.

W. B. Bostwick and Company are located in the West End Mill, where they manufacture vegetable ivory buttons. Mr. W. B. Bostwick came from New Milford, where for about twenty years he had been engaged with his brother in the same business. In August, 1884, their buildings in that village were burned, and then he came to Bridgeport, formed a partnership with Mr. D. B. Seward, and established the present prosperous enterprise, employing from 70 to 100 hands.

In this making of buttons, on orders only, there is almost an endless variety of styles, changing almost every season. The Bostwick brothers, having been among the first producers of this kind of goods, are known all over the country, and have had thus far large success.

Standard Card and Paper Company, located in the West End Mill, was established June 1, 1884, with a capital of \$5,000. Mr. S. B. Hutchinson is President and Manager, and Mr. E. T. Baram, Treasurer and Secretary. They manufacture fine wedding and photograph mounting card board paper, entirely on orders, employing about fifteen hands. Mr. S. B. Hutchinson came here from Springfield, Mass., where he learned a practical knowledge of the business.

Bridgeport Silk Company occupy a part of the West End Mill and was established October 1, 1882. Mr. M. C. Patterson is the proprietor and manager. He came from Union



Hill, N. J., where he obtained a practical knowledge of the business. He manufactures dress, carriage, umbrella, and upholstering silks, making a regular line, and also anything in these kinds of goods, to order. One specialty is a pure dye black silk, in stock, one of the best articles in the market; and another is the carriage goods, of which he produces a large line. He employs from 75 to 100 hands.

Cornwall and Patterson Manufacturing Company occupy a part of the West End Mill, were established here October 1, 1879, with a capital of \$20,000; J. B. Cornwall, President and Manager. They manufacture piano and organ hardware, and a line of base ball goods, employing twenty-five men. They work on contracts, putting out large quantities of their base ball goods to be made in private families, a feature of industry of which there is but very little in Bridgeport, most all goods being made in the manufacturing buildings.

Bridgeport Steel Cutlery Company is located in the West End Mill, and was established in March, 1886; W. Minor Smith, President; E. R. Ives, Treasurer; G. J. Brown, Secretary. Capital, \$5,000. They manufacture shoe shanks, nails and steel work generally.

The Wilmot and Hobbs Manufacturing Company, on the corner of Railroad and Hancock avenues, were established in October, 1884, with a capital of \$125,000. Their building is 125 by 200 feet, three stories. Samuel R. Wilmot, President; Willis F. Hobbs, Secretary; Charles M. Duprey, Treasurer. They manufacture cold rolled iron in various forms, carriage axle boxes and hubs, steel bells and gongs, bicycle rims and felloes, and many other articles of iron, steel and copper. They make goods upon orders and are driven night and day to fill the same.

Saddle-Trees.—The manufacture of saddle-trees was closely allied to the saddlery business. Saddle-trees were early made in a small way in Danbury and at Hartford, but the business was more fully developed in Bridgeport and Newark, N. J. While Newark manufacturers supplied little



more than the requirements of the saddlers of that place, Bridgeport supplied her home demands and sent her products in this line all through the country.

Mr. Eben Fairchild, of Trumbull, is said to have made the first saddle-trees in these parts. He very privately separated the parts of an old saddle, examined the tree, took patterns of the parts, made a dozen trees, carried them across the fields to the blacksmith and had them ironed. They were then, probably, suitably painted and varnished and placed in market. The process was repeated with increasing volume, and soon Mr. Fairchild was joined by his brother Reuben, and Isaiah Peet, having their shop at Nichols' Farms. This firm supplied the earlier Bridgeport saddlers and also sent their products to Hartford and Middletown.

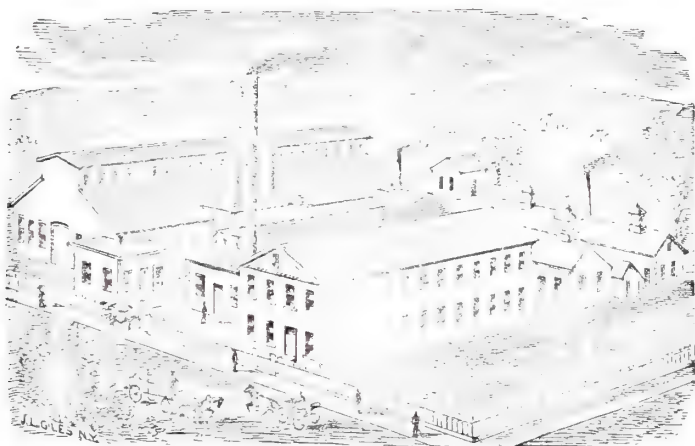
Mr. Stephen Hull, a blacksmith from Danbury, commenced the business on Main street. His residence was on the site of the Connecticut National Bank, and his shop immediately north, which was burned in the fire of 1835. Capt. William A. Peck, a leading manufacturer later, learned the business from him, and perhaps others did the same. The following persons or firms were engaged in this business from 1825 to 1860. David and Josiah Hubbell—later David Hubbell, S. and G. Sterling, David Sterling, Jr., foreman; F. Lathrop and F. Lathrop and Son; William A. Peck and Company, and W. A. Peck, and Charles Sherman. There was also Fairchild, Peet and Company, and F. P. Ambler and Sons, at Nichols' Farms; and George Hinman and Hinman and Edwards, at Huntington. Formerly the gig saddles in harness were made on wooden trees, and the gig trees, to which Ambler and Sons gave special attention, they regarded as the most profitable department of their business.

During the late war the United States government required an immense number of the regulation saddle-trees, raw-hide covered; the last named firm engaged in the manufacture of these trees extensively, and it has been continued by the surviving member of the firm, although the West, with cheaper material and labor, has almost monopolized the markets with her cheaper product, and the former styles have been superseded. Not a saddle-tree of the old style is now manu-



factured in Bridgeport proper, where thousands of dozens were formerly produced.

Pembroke Iron Foundry, manufacturers of fine, light and medium gray iron castings, is located at the corner of Barnum and Hallett streets. Besides making the castings for light machinery and sewing machines a specialty, this company produce a large variety of castings for general use in machinery. In March, 1872, the enterprise was located here, occupying a whole square, bounded by four streets, and their buildings erected under the firm name of Wilson, Parsons and



PEMBROKE IRON FOUNDRY.

Company. In 1881 Mr. Wilson sold his interest in the enterprise, and the proprietors now are Robert E. Parsons, Anson H. Landon, the firm name being Parsons and Landon. Mr. Parsons is a native of Windsor Locks, Conn., and Mr. Landon of Guilford, Conn. They employ fifty men, their pay roll being \$550 per week, their sales about \$75,000 a year.

The Hatch Brothers Company are located at corner of Railroad avenue and Norman street; G. C. Hatch is proprietor. The business was established by Messrs. Sackley and Undy about January 1, 1885, and purchased by the present proprietor October 1, 1885. They employ about twenty hands, and produce pocket cutlery, novelties, dies



and tools. They make regular stock goods and anything to order which may be desired, specially a fine grade of pocket knives, equal in quality to imported goods. The business is under the management of Mr. Fred Suckley, who is a practical man of thirty years' experience, having commenced in the work at nine years of age, at Sheffield, England.

The Chaplin Manufacturing Company is located near the railroad depot, and was established in this city March 1, 1886. They came here from Hartford, where they continued their business about four years. The officers are: A. R. Goodrich, of Hartford, President; W. C. Mead, of Bridgeport, Secretary and Treasurer; and Hector McKennie, Superintendent. They manufacture anti-friction bearings for machinery and horse cars, and these only upon orders.

Mr. William I. Alvord occupies a part of the building at the north end of railroad depot, as a practical machinist. He formerly manufactured vegetable ivory buttons and a few specialties. He is specially engaged in inventing different articles of machinery.

Follansbee Machine Works, Mr. John S. Follansbee proprietor, occupy a part of the building at the north end of the depot, established here January 1, 1884. He is a manufacturer of light machinery, on orders, employing about twenty-five hands. He is a practical mechanic, having devoted most of his life to this work, commencing with the Roger Williams foundry and machine works, of Providence, and afterwards superintending the Diamond Pin Company, of Boston, from which he came to Bridgeport.

Coulter and McKenzie Machine Company occupies a part of the building at the north end of the depot, was incorporated December 1, 1882, with a stock of \$7,500, doing a general machinist business, manufacturing light and heavy machine shaftings, hangers and pulleys, on orders, giving employment to about thirty hands.

Giles and Clancey's iron foundry is located at the corner of Water and Golden Hill streets, and was estab-



lished here in January, 1876. They employ about forty hands, doing a general work, making castings of most any description, upon order.

John Hamilton is located at the corner of Middle street and Golden Hill, was established here January 1, 1871. He is a manufacturer of plumbers' brass goods, and a general work of that description, to order. He makes a regular line of goods, which are sold entirely through a Boston house, employing from ten to fifteen hands.

Hotchkiss and Malliband are located on the corner of Middle street and Golden Hill, and were established here November 1, 1885. They manufacture all kinds of fancy colored leathers, for binders, pocket books, and hats, on contracts, employing from ten to fifteen hands.

J. Neal, successor to J. Neal and Company, is located on the corner of Middle and Golden Hill streets, and was established here January 1, 1883. He manufactures white metal and britannia goods, canes and umbrella heads being a specialty, in hundreds of styles and descriptions, having contracts with New York parties for all his productions. Since moving into his new quarters, by improved processes and systematizing the business, he produces more goods with no more than six hands, and at greatly reduced prices, than formerly with thirty hands.

Watson Iron Works. located on Knowlton street in East Bridgeport, James Watson, proprietor, was established January 1, 1884. He is successor to James Watson, Jr., who previously conducted the business four years. He manufactures castings and children's iron toys, employing thirty hands.

The Acme Shear Company is located on Knowlton street in East Bridgeport, and was established here in September, 1882, with a capital of \$5,000. The officers are: Dwight Wheeler, President; D. C. Wheeler, Secretary; and J. A. Crofut, Treasurer. They employ twenty-five hands and manufacture plain and ornamental nickel plated and japanned shears, scissors, nut crackers, ice picks, and lemon



squeezers; also Wheeler's patent perfect screw drivers and other specialties. They have a large export trade.

The Armstrong Manufacturing Company is located on Knowlton street in East Bridgeport, and were incorporated in March, 1886, being successors to F. Armstrong, who had manufactured in the present locality about three years, and previous to that for about thirteen years as Armstrong and House. The present officers are: F. Armstrong, President; John Ewing, Secretary and Treasurer; with a stock capital of \$100,000. They employ fifty hands and are continually increasing the number. They manufacture water, steam and gas-fitting tools, the Armstrong brace, suspender, armlets, gaiters of spiral spring, and patent pantaloons and vest buckles. The spiral springs, buckles, and metal parts for the suspenders, armlets, gaiters, and work of this kind are made by the Chapman and Armstrong Company, of Waterbury, and although a separate organization, they work in conjunction with each other. Their goods are sold through their New York office, at 132 Church street.

The House Corset Machine Company is located on Knowlton street in East Bridgeport, and was incorporated January 1, 1883. They are successors of J. Alfred House, who has been engaged in the business about ten years. The officers are: J. Alfred House, President; Emile H. Roth, Secretary and Treasurer; and Charles H. Diamond, Assistant Treasurer. The stock capital is \$60,000, and they employ twenty-five hands. They manufacture corset machinery, and do a great amount of embroidery work for corset companies. They also lease the House patent moulding machine to several companies. They export goods extensively to England, Ireland, France, and Germany.

The B. Goodman Manufacturing Company is located on Knowlton street, and was established in January, 1886, with a stock capital of \$75,000. The officers are: B. Goodman, President and Treasurer; T. C. Hotchkiss, Secretary. They manufacture elastic webbing, suspenders, pantaloons and vest buckles, clasps, purse frames, and many other articles of this kind of goods, which are sold through their



New York office, 20 Walker street. Previous to being established here their webbing was made at Waterbury, and their different styles of buckles at Ansonia.

The Holmes and Edwards Silver Company was incorporated in 1882. George C. Edwards is President and Treasurer; Morris W. Seymour, Vice-President; T. D. Baker, Secretary. They have salesrooms in New York, Philadelphia and Chicago. They manufacture entirely flat ware, and employ one hundred hands.

Couch and Wisner, manufacturers of ladies', misses' and children's fine shoes, are located at 430 Water street. The business was established in 1870 by Mr. Ansel H. Couch, on Fairfield avenue, and in 1878 Mr. Wisner became a partner and the firm formed as it now is. The business was continued on Fairfield avenue until 1881, when they removed to their present commodious quarters. They occupy three floors, 100 by 60 feet, with an engine and boiler room 30 by 20 feet, on the first floor. The establishment is fitted with all modern improvements in the manufacture of shoes that lessen manual labor; among these are twenty-five stitching machines, six button-hole machines, McKay's sole sewer, Swayne and Fuller beating-out machine, heel-trimming machine, Bussell's fore-part trimmer, two Union edge setters, two Tapley heel-burnishers, one bottom buffer, and one shank buffer. The machinery is run by a twenty horse power engine, and a boiler of thirty horse power, and they have facilities for making 2,000 pair of shoes weekly. They employ about 160 operatives, about half of them men and half women.

Mr. Ansel H. Couch, the senior member of the firm, is a native of Bethel, Conn. He served his country during the rebellion, nearly four years in the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, entering as a private and being mustered out a second lieutenant. He participated in the siege of Yorktown, the battle of Malvern Hill, and was under General Grant in front of Petersburg and Richmond, and is a member of the G. A. R.

Mr. Albert Wisner is a native of Warwick, N. Y., and is a thorough, practical business man. Mr. George E. Louns-



bury, member of the shoe manufacturing establishment of Lounsbury, Matthewson and Company, of South Norwalk, is a member of this firm, although his name does not appear in the title of the company. Mr. Lounsbury is a native of Ridgefield, and has for a long time been engaged in the shoe business.

The Farist Steel Company is located on East Main street at the southern end, where they ship their goods direct on vessels at their dock on the harbor. The company was organized at Windsor Locks, Conn., in 1860, and in 1872 removed their establishment to Bridgeport, where they constructed large, commodious buildings on a very advantageous site, their buildings covering several acres. They manufacture all descriptions of cast steel, hammered or rolled spiral and elliptic car springs, and railroad forging to pattern, employing fifty skilled workmen. Their main building is 190 by 80 feet, the shop 120 by 60 feet, the gas house 110 by 90, and the spring shop 100 by 50 feet.

Mr. Joel Farist, the founder and president of the company, is a native of England, and has always been engaged in his present business. His associates are: Mr. George Windsor, Secretary; and Mr. John B. Windsor, Treasurer.

Pacific Iron Works, P. H. Skidmore and Sons, proprietors, are located on the corner of East Main street and East Washington avenue. This is one of the largest and oldest establishments in the city, it having been established in 1853 as a stock company, in which form it remained until 1860, when it passed into the hands of Mr. P. H. Skidmore, and the change having since been made to Skidmore and Sons. Their buildings occupy from one to one and a half acres of land. Their main building, consisting of machine and pattern shop, is 175 by 75 feet, two stories; the boiler and blacksmith shop is a one story building 200 by 60 feet; the foundry is 200 by 75 feet, one story, besides which there are several other large buildings. Their business consists of steam engine building, boiler making, iron founding, and general machine work. They consume annually 1,000 tons of pig iron, 100 tons of bar iron, 50 tons of boiler iron, and 15 tons of brass.



Mr. P. H. Skidmore, the senior member of the firm, is a native of Bethlehem, Conn. He represented the town of Newtown in 1870, and has held a seat in the common council of this city. Mr. P. H. Skidmore, Jr., is a native of Bethlehem, resided in Florida six years superintending the construction of the St. Johns Railway, and then came to Bridgeport. Mr. Julius W. Skidmore was born in Bethlehem; has resided most of his life in this city but served in the late war for the Union. Mr. H. B. Smith is superintendent of the establishment, having been with the firm twenty-five years.

The Eaton, Cole and Burnham Company.—The officers of this corporation are: John Eaton, President; E. G. Burnham, Vice-President; E. H. Cole, Treasurer; J. C. Bloom, Assistant Treasurer, and W. H. Douglas, Secretary.

Their works are located on Water extending through to Main street and occupy a considerable portion of the part of the block bounded and formed by the intersection of these two streets.

Their New York office and warehouses are located at 82 and 84 Fulton street, from which place their goods are distributed to all parts of the United States and foreign countries.

Mr. E. G. Burnham, the founder of this industry, is a native of Massachusetts, and learned his trade at a time when metals and fuel for melting had to be carted from the seacoast by horses. Mr. Burnham came to Bridgeport in 1860, and soon after engaged in the manufacture of brass and iron valves, cocks and goods used for steam, water and gas. The business grew rapidly till in 1875 he associated himself with Messrs. Eaton and Cole, a firm doing business in the same line of goods in New York, and the present company was formed with a capital of \$350,000. The formation of this company was the occasion of additional production, necessitating increased facilities and enlarged works for manufacturing the constantly increasing variety of goods peculiar to this business. These have steadily grown in volume till now they employ over 500 persons, and are at present erecting a building and providing facilities for a still further increase in their production and the number of employees. Great care and



Engr. by J. H. Smith

Ed. Furman





pains are necessary in preparing the goods for the purposes for which they are to be used, and this is particularly true of goods intended for use in the petroleum districts, of which they make a very large quantity and variety. The management of the works is wholly in Mr. Burnham's charge, which he untiringly administers and yet finds time to attend to his duties as a public spirited citizen, being at the present time a member of the Board of Public Works in this city.

The Bridgeport Cart Company was established in this city in 1883. Mr. F. L. Perry, the proprietor, while a nurseryman at Canandaigua, N.Y., received a severe personal injury, after which he conveyed himself about in a vehicle, but the kind he used being uncomfortable, he devoted himself to construct a better one. In this he succeeded and secured a patent for his invention, and soon after established himself in Bridgeport as a manufacturer of carts of this kind, in which he has succeeded beyond his expectations. This article differs from others simply in the application of the patent spring, which is so constructed that it may be applied to any style of body.

Bridgeport Button Works are located at 249 Water street. Mr. James E. Donnelly is the proprietor, and manufactures ladies' covered dress buttons. The business was established in 1864 by the Bridgeport Button Company, at its present location, and was conducted as a stock company until 1868, when the present proprietor purchased the business and changed the title to the present form. Mr. Donnelly learned the business during a number of years spent in the establishment of Messrs. W. R. Hitchcock and Goddard Brothers, of Waterbury. He occupies two stories 100 by 23 feet, and manufactures, besides ladies' covered dress buttons, undertakers' covered buttons, silk, gold and silver covered tacks of all sizes, and many other like articles. The coverings are imported from Europe, the fillings are of iron, brass, tin and paper. He employs 125 persons, principally girls. Mr. Donnelly is a native of Waterbury, came here in 1866, and served as superintendent of the company before purchasing the business.

The Parrott Varnish Company is located at 187 North Washington avenue, and is a prosperous enterprise. In



1846, Mr. Frederick W. Parrott, having given his attention some years as a cabinet maker to the manufacture of varnish, commenced the business as a distinctive enterprise. This he followed with good success until 1869, when he associated with himself his son Henry R. Parrott, and his son-in-law John D. Whitney. By strict attention to business and the manufacture of the best quality of goods, the industry has increased from a small beginning to large and influential proportions. The increasing demand for their varnishes from all quarters of the globe, has given them a world-wide reputation.

*Mr. Frederick Wells Parrott*⁸ was born in Bridgeport, July 25th, 1806, and is still quite an active, stirring man. His great grandfather, Capt. Jedediah F. Wells, and his grandfather, Capt. Jedediah Wells, were also residents of this town, the former being the owner of considerable portion of the southern part of the territory of the City of Bridgeport, and the latter was a soldier of the War of 1812. The direct line of ancestry of this Wells family runs back through John Wells, one of the early settlers of Stratford, who was the son of Thomas Wells, of Hartford and Wethersfield, Conn., one of the early governors of the Connecticut colony.

Mr. Parrott, in 1827, commenced business as a manufacturer of furniture, and built, some years later, the first sofa and hearse that were ever used in Bridgeport. While engaged in the furniture business his attention was directed towards the manufacture of varnishes, which he commenced in 1846, and laid the foundation for the present firm, known as the Parrott Varnish Company, which was organized in 1869. Mr. Parrott has been in active business over half a century, and, so far as ascertained, is the only man still in active life who was thus engaged fifty years ago. He has always taken great interest in local affairs, and has been prominently identified with the municipal government, in which he served as alderman, member of the Common Council, and board of road and bridge commissioners. His best service to the town was undoubtedly as first selectman, which position he held during the late civil war. His unbounded con-

⁸ See genealogy in this book.



Frederick W. Parrott



fidence in the justice and final success of the cause, and his strict business integrity, enabled him to fill the Bridgeport quotas for troops rapidly and with great financial success. He married, in 1827, Miss Lucelia A. Remer, of Derby, Conn. Their golden wedding was celebrated May 17, 1877, and one feature of which was the presentation, by the Ladies' Charitable Society, of a beautiful silver piece, for fruit and flowers, to Mrs. Parrott, she being one of the oldest living members, having joined it the year after her marriage.

The Bridgeport Spring Company manufacture carriage, coach and wagon springs, and are located at the corner of Main street and East Washington avenue. They were incorporated in 1864, with Edwin Banks President and Treasurer, and William H. Rockwell, Secretary. The buildings cover an area of 200 by 125 feet, two stories in height. About 500 tons of steel are worked into springs during a year by the labor of about seventy-five skilled workmen. Mr. Edwin Banks is a native of Greenfield Hill, Conn., and Mr. William H. Rockwell is a native of Ridgefield, Conn., and has held the position of councilman and alderman in this city.

The Bridgeport Paper Company was incorporated in September, 1883, with a capital stock of \$150,000. The officers are: R. M. Pulsifer, President; C. Canfield, Secretary; J. E. Stone, Treasurer. They are located in North Bridgeport and manufacture various kinds of paper for newspapers.

Bridgeport Electric Light Company is located in John street and was incorporated in 1884. The officers are: President, Joel Farist; Secretary, H. D. Stanley; Treasurer, E. G. Burnham. They manufacture electric light for the city.

Union Metallic Cartridge Company was incorporated in 1867. The officers are: M. Hartley, of New York. President and Treasurer; A. C. Hobbs, Superintendent. The stock capital is \$300,000. See on another page.

Wheel and Wood Bending Company is located at 77 John street, with a capital stock of \$60,000. The officers are: Horace Smith, President; H. W. Smith, Secretary; Eli C. Smith, Treasurer.

The Wales Wheel Company was incorporated in 1881. The officers are: Henry Wales, President; T. F. Wales, Secretary; H. A. Wales, Treasurer; Leon A. Abbott, Superintendent. They are located on the corner of Thompson street and Housatonic avenue. The capital stock is \$25,000.

Bridgeport Coach Lace Company is located at 88 John street. Nathan Buckingham, President; F. J. Naramore, Secretary; Charles F. Wood, Treasurer. The directors are: Charles F. Wood, Nathan Buckingham, Enoch P. Hincks, F. J. Naramore. The capital stock is \$15,000.

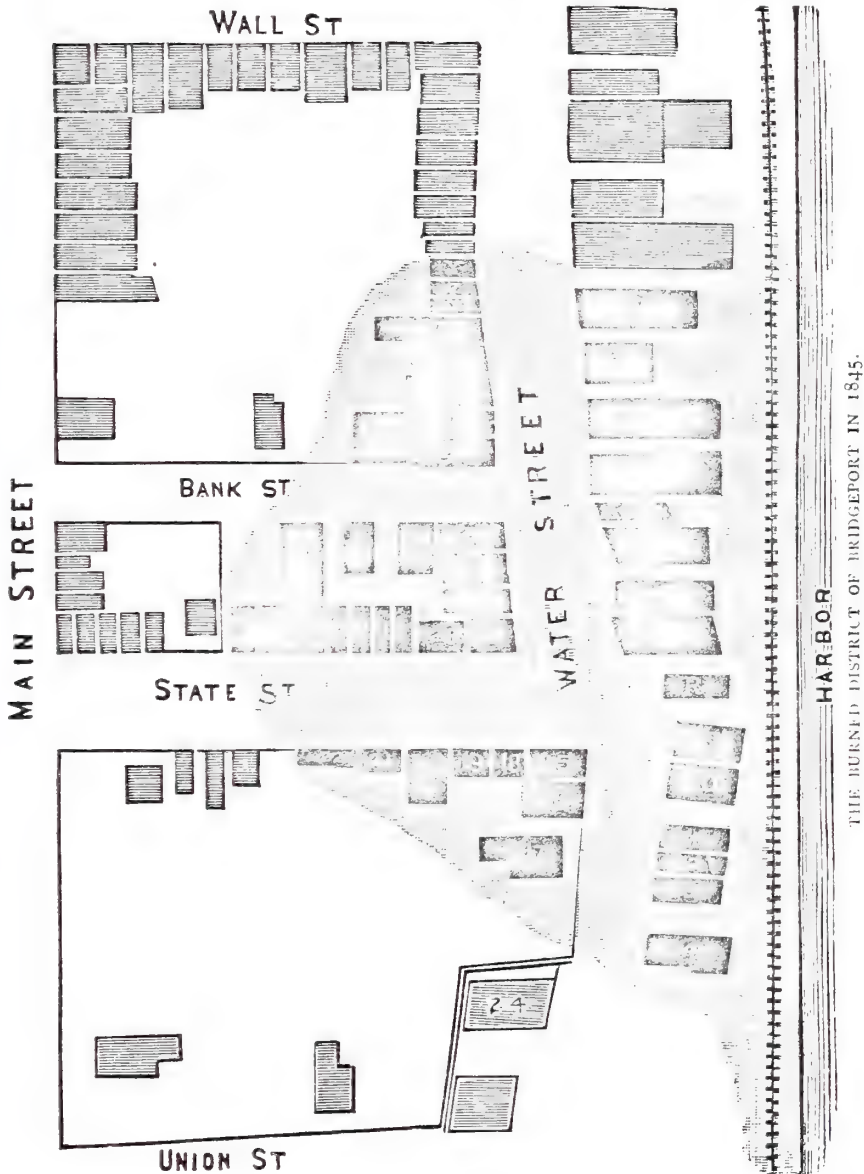
Bridgeport Elastic Webb Company is located at 114 John street, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The officers are: Edward Sterling, President; E. W. Marsh, Secretary; F. B. Hawley, Treasurer.

The Bridgeport Forge Company was organized in January, 1883, with a capital of \$150,000, and is located at the foot of Howard avenue. The officers are: President, Charles H. Pierce; Secretary and Treasurer, William F. Pinkham; Superintendent, Benjamin Fletcher, Jr. They manufacture wrought iron and steel forgings of all kinds, and are particularly equipped for marine and engine work of the heaviest descriptions. Their steam hammers and machine tools are the most powerful in the eastern States. Their locality on an inlet of the Sound, affords facilities for shipments of some of their goods by water, and a side track of the New York and New Haven railroad gives ready transportation by that method.

The Bridgeport Copper Company was organized in June, 1885, with a capital of \$50,000. The officers are: President, A. F. Migeon; Treasurer, Charles H. Pierce; Secretary, William F. Pinkham. They are the sole refiners of the product of the Parrot Silver and Copper Company, of Butte, Montana, and acting as the Eastern fiscal agents for said Western company. Their refined copper is marketable both in this country and in Europe, and is known as the P. S. C. brand. The company's works here are located in connection with the forge company, although entirely a separate industry.



The Great Fire of 1845.—Reference has been made several times to the destruction of houses and stores by fire in 1845. The accompanying cut illustrates somewhat the extent of the injury done. The fire was first discovered



about half past one o'clock in the morning of December 12, 1845, in a large wooden building on the south side of Bank street, near Water, occupied by George A. Wells (A), as a boarding house and oyster saloon. It originated in the cellar, where there was a quantity of shavings and wood stored for fuel. It had made considerable progress before it was discovered, and it spread so rapidly that the family of Mr. Wells had time only to save themselves and a few articles of furniture. The weather was bitter cold, with a light breeze from the north and northwest. The alarm being given the firemen responded as quickly as possible, but their facilities for extinguishing the fire were very limited, the tide being low in the harbor they were unable to obtain any water, and therefore were powerless. Under these circumstances the fire spread until a large proportion of the business part of the city was destroyed. The number of buildings destroyed were forty-nine, all being built with wood; the letters and figures on the accompanying chart refer to descriptions of parties who owned or rented these buildings, as found in the Municipal Register of the city for 1882. The amount of loss was estimated at \$150,000, on which there was an insurance of \$80,000.

Bridgeport Post Office.^{*}—Previous to the year 1800 the village of Newfield, consisting of a few stores on Water street and a few residences on Main and State streets, was a part of, and, as a business place, only an appendage to the town of Stratford, at which latter place all the town, probate and post office business was transacted. At that date the place arose to the dignity of the borough of Bridgeport, and, under the administration of Thomas Jefferson, a post office was established, and Amos B. Fairman appointed postmaster April 1, 1801. Mr. Fairman is believed to have been the proprietor of the public house located on the southwest corner of Wall and Water streets, afterwards known as the Washington Hotel, the business of the post office being conducted in the north room of the building, which was

^{*} Contributed by F. W. Smith, an ex-postmaster, for the Bridgeport Municipal Register for 1876.

occupied as a drug store. The western terminus of the Bridgeport Bridge was then at the foot of Wall street, which made this point a convenient stopping place for the change of the mails.

Mr. Benjamin Bostwick soon afterward became the proprietor of the hotel, and he and his son Charles Bostwick—subsequently mayor of Bridgeport—held the office of postmaster from 1804 to 1810. At that time the mail was brought from New York by a four horse stage coach, and arrived between eight or nine o'clock or later in the evening, according to the condition of the roads. The entrance of the stage into the village was signalled by the long sounding of the horn, as it came down what was then an ordinary road, but is now State street. Mr. Bostwick removed his business and the office about 1809 to the corner of Bank and Water streets, and remained postmaster until he sold his business to Jesse Sterling, when he resigned the office and Mr. Sterling was appointed his successor. Not long after, a block of wooden buildings was erected, called then "the new block," and Mr. Sterling removed his business and the post office into the store next to Hamilton's drug store, now occupied by Albert J. Wentworth, fruit dealer, number 70 State street. The office accommodations at that time consisted of a sort of upright show case about thirty inches long by twenty-four inches wide, located at the rear of the store, and upon the mantel over the fire place, arranged behind tapes were placed the letters. Upon the opening of the mail it was the custom to call the names of persons for whom there were letters, and thus the whole village were able to keep track of each other's correspondence.

During the later years of Mr. Sterling's incumbency the business was transferred to the front of his premises on Main street, now occupied by Turney Hall as a fancy goods store, and known as number 318, the connection with the State street store being kept up at the rear. An elderly citizen has related that while the business was conducted in the store on State street, a single daily newspaper, the "Journal of Commerce," from New York, was taken in the place, by Isaac Burroughs. On its arrival it was considered, by the



consent of Mr. Burroughs, public property for a short time, and the company gathered were treated to the news by some stentorian reader.

When Andrew Jackson was elected president he adopted the policy "to the victors belong the spoils," and at that time, there being only five Jackson men in the town—Doct. Samuel Simons, Stephen Lounsbury, William B. Dyer, Mark Moore, and Asa Benjamin—it became necessary to appoint one of these gentlemen as postmaster. The two contestants were Doctor Simons and Stephen Lounsbury, Jr., the former being known through the State as an old leading democrat, and Mr. Lounsbury only as a young man of the firm of Smith and Lounsbury, dry goods dealers, on the corner of State and Water streets.

The postage on letters was regulated at that time by a table of distances, as follows: 30 miles and under, 6 cents; over 30 and under 80, 10 cents; over 80 and under 150, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents; over 150 and under 400, $18\frac{3}{4}$ cents; over 400, 25 cents. Although the population of the place at that time was only 1,500, the income of the office was of considerable importance, and hence the contest for it very earnest. Young Lounsbury, however, made an early start by securing all the names of the Jackson party except the doctor, and a letter of introduction to General Jackson from Mordecai M. Noah, editor of the "New York National Advocate," and other letters to Martin Van Buren, Secretary of State, and William T. Berry, the Postmaster-General, he went to Washington, and by feeing the president's colored messenger with a half dollar, secured an early audience with "Old Hickory," and soon after received his commission as postmaster. Mr. Lounsbury established the post office on State street next door to the corner of State and Water streets, which was the first time the office was dignified with an entirely separate apartment, and with seventy-five private boxes. Here it remained about three years, when it was removed back to the corner of Wall and Water streets, under the old Washington hotel, which was at that time owned by Fitch Wheeler, a leading member of the Fairfield county bar, and who, desiring to add to the attractions in that vicinity, fitted the office and rented it to Mr.



Lounsbury. After two years the Connecticut Bank, having conducted business in the store at the northwest corner of Water and Wall streets, built their present building on the corner of Wall and Main streets, made Mr. Lounsbury a liberal proposition, which was accepted, and the office was removed into the room under the bank. About this time Mr. R. B. Lacey made his advent into Bridgeport and became assistant in the post office, which position he filled very acceptably for a number of years. Mr. Lounsbury became a leading business man of the place, and built a dwelling which occupied the site of the present St. John's Church, at the corner of Park and Fairfield avenues, and ornamented the grounds in a very attractive style, which was the first residence of the ornamented kind in Bridgeport. His business becoming so extended that he could not attend to the duties of the office, he resigned his position in December, 1836, accompanied with a recommendation in favor of Smith Tweedy as his successor. Mr. Tweedy was from Danbury, a hatter by trade, and kept a shop on the corner of Beaver and Middle streets, and being a very active man soon became one of the prominent democratic politicians, and with William S. Pomeroy and Doctor Simons was the committee appointed by the government to expend \$10,000 appropriated by Congress to dig out the bar in Bridgeport harbor. Mr. Tweedy remained in the office during the administration of Mr. Van Buren, and kept it under the Connecticut bank to the end of his term.

During Mr. Tweedy's term, arrangements were made for a partial mail service by steamboat from New York, the stage coach continuing to take the mails at night, since letters thereby reached the city of New York and were ready for delivery early the next morning. During the same period an express mail—at triple rates—was established from Boston to New Orleans, which continued only about two years.

The success of the "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," campaign involved the removal of Mr. Tweedy, and Isaac Sherman, Jr., became his successor. Mr. Sherman kept the office in a small building on the site of numbers 27 and 29 Wall street for a part of his time, and then removed the building and the office to the lot on Main street, south of the Sterling



house, where he continued the office during the balance of his term.

When James K. Polk was elected in 1844, Philo F. Barnum was appointed postmaster for the next four years and served his time, the mails being more fully transferred from the stage coach to the boat *Nimrod*, under Captain Brooks.⁹

Col. Julius W. Knowlton, son of William S. Knowlton, was born in Southbridge, Worcester Co., Mass., November 28, 1838. When seven years of age his parents removed to Norwich, Conn., and after three years to Bridgeport, where he was educated in the public and private schools, giving particular attention to mathematical studies and civil engineering. In 1860 he engaged in the coal business in Bridgeport, in which he continued until the breaking out of the Rebellion, when in 1862 he enlisted as a private in company A, 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, and upon the organization of the regiment was made commissary-sergeant. He subsequently acted as brigade-commissary in the brigade commanded by Gen. Dwight Morris, colonel of the 14th regiment. Executive ability has been the marked feature of Colonel Knowlton's life, and it was strikingly illustrated on the night of the battle of Antietam, when, with the utmost despatch he pushed his provision train to the front and was the first to provide his brigade with supplies. He was promoted to the second lieutenantcy of company C, the color company of his regiment, and was in command of that company at the battle of Gettysburg. On the third day of that battle he was wounded, from the effects of which he has not fully recovered, and remained in a hospital on the field eleven

⁹ *List of the Postmasters at Bridgeport, with the date of their appointment, as taken from the Department at Washington, D. C.*

Amos B. Fairman,	April 1, 1801	Philo F. Barnum,	September 22, 1845
Charles Bostwick,	January 1, 1804	George Wade,	July 16, 1848
Benjamin Bostwick,	July 1, 1806	Epaphras B. Goodsell,	April 9, 1853
Charles Bostwick,	October 1, 1808	Friend W. Smith, Jr.,	May 16, 1861
Jesse Sterling,	September 15, 1810	George F. Tracy,	April 16, 1869
Stephen Lounsbury, Jr.,	May 8, 1829	James E. Dunham,	November 9, 1872
Smith Tweedy,	January 12, 1837	Julius W. Knowlton,	October 15, 1875
Isaac Sherman, Jr.,	April 12, 1841		





Engraving of Mr. J. M. Knowlton

J. M. Knowlton



days, when he was removed to Baltimore, and soon after came home. Early in the following January he returned to the front, but was unable to perform arduous military duty because of some spinal injury caused by the shock of the wound received, and March 29, 1864, was discharged for physical disability, and at the surrender of Lee was clerk in the provost marshal's office at Bridgeport.

Upon the close of the war Colonel Knowlton received an appointment in the Adams Express Company, and subsequently, in October, 1866, was one of three who purchased the Bridgeport "Standard," the company being organized as a stock company the next January, with Mr. Knowlton as secretary and treasurer and business manager. This position he resigned in March, 1873, to take the superintendency of the Moore Car Wheel Company, of Jersey City, N. J., a large establishment, but the memorable "Black Friday" came, and the business was ruined. On the 12th of October, 1874, he accepted the position of chief of the division of dead letters at Washington, which division being then fourteen months in arrears and in disorder, was soon regulated to a thorough system, all arrears cleared up, and the office placed in complete running order. He was then made chief clerk of the post office department by Postmaster-General Jewell, a position which he held until October 15, 1875, when he received the appointment of postmaster at Bridgeport, and on November 1st took possession of the office, which he has conducted with his usual ability and with great satisfaction to the public.

Politically Colonel Knowlton is a republican, and is active and prominent in the councils of the party. He has served two terms in the Legislature, has been a member of the Republican State Committee, and was on Governor Jewell's staff, with the rank of colonel. He is also a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, for he is now serving his third term as Eminent Commander, having also taken the thirty-second degree of Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. He is a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. He has been Assistant Adjutant General of the Grand Army of the Republic of Connecticut, and a mem-



ber of the National Council of Administration of the Grand Army, and in 1880 was a delegate to the National Encampment of the Grand Army. He is also a trustee of the Mechanics and Farmers Savings Bank, of Bridgeport. In 1885 he was elected for the twenty-first consecutive time, Secretary of the Society of the 14th Connecticut Regiment, and through his faithful and earnest labors in this office the society has a full set of the reports of the annual meetings to the present time.

Mr. Knowlton married December 17, 1866, Miss Jennie E. Fairchild, of Newtown, Conn., and they have had two children, both of whom are deceased. He traces his ancestors back, in a regular line, to Thomas Knowlton, who came to Ipswich, Mass., in 1632 or 3.

*The Hydraulic Company.*¹⁰—The effort to supply water by pipes to the people of Bridgeport was made by the Rev. Elijah Waterman about the year 1818. Certain springs of pure water near the corner of Golden Hill and Hewit streets were cleared and deepened, and the water conducted through the principal streets in wooden pipes, or, rather, bored logs. The enterprise was continued at first by Lewis C. Segee, who succeeded Mr. Waterman about the year 1823, and afterwards, in May, 1833, by Jesse Sterling, Stephen Hawley, Seth B. Jones, Ziba Northrop, Nicholas Northrop, Edwin Porter, and George Kippen, as a chartered company—the first grant made for a water company by the Connecticut Legislature—under the name of the Bridgeport Golden Hill Aqueduct Company, with a capital of \$10,000, the water being obtained from the springs already mentioned.

In 1853 the need of a more extensive supply of water, particularly for fire purposes, being felt, the Common Council granted to Nathan Green—agent of the Pequonnock Mills, in North Bridgeport—and to his assigns the exclusive privilege of laying down water pipes in the public streets, on condition that they should furnish the city and the inhabitants with a full supply of pure water for domestic, mechanical, and all ordinary uses, both public and private. Upon this

¹⁰ See Municipal Register for 1873.

the Bridgeport Water Company was incorporated to Mr. Greene and others for this purpose in the year 1853, with a capital of \$160,000, and during the following year a distributing reservoir in North Bridgeport was constructed and pipes laid through the principal streets of the city, the source of supply being the water of the Pequonnock river, which was pumped into the reservoir.

The enterprise did not prove remunerative to the stockholders, and, bonds to the amount of ninety thousand dollars having been issued, the company eventually fell into the hands of the bondholders by foreclosure, and in June, 1857, a charter was granted to a new corporation composed of the bondholders. By this charter, William S. Knowlton, N. Greene, J. H. Washburn, Joseph Richardson, and others became, under the name of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, the successors of the Bridgeport Water Company, and the possessors of all its rights and franchises. Serious complaint having been made for a long time both as to the want of a sufficient supply and as to the quality of the water furnished, an act was passed by the General Assembly, July 2, 1873, authorizing the city to buy the works of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, or to build new works if a purchase could not be effected upon terms satisfactory to the city. This act was duly ratified by the city, but at a city meeting called for the purpose, August 13, 1873, resolutions to purchase the hydraulic company's works for the sum of three hundred thousand dollars were lost by twenty-seven majority, the whole number of votes cast being six hundred and seventy-six. A new proposition made by the company to a committee of the Common Council, to sell the works, franchises, etc., for the sum of two hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars was rejected, November 3, 1873, by a larger majority than the former one, namely, two hundred and twenty-three out of a vote of seventeen hundred and forty-three. Eventually, Joseph Richardson, up to this time the president and leading stockholder, sold his stock to the Hon. Amos S. Treat, and a new policy was inaugurated. The sources of supply have been greatly enlarged, old and worn-out pipe has been replaced in many sections with new pipe of good



quality, and mains have been laid in localities not before reached. Since August 25, 1875, the date of Mr. Treat's purchase, the sum of one hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars has been expended in laying mains, and thirty thousand dollars in building new reservoirs. The total amount of mains now in use is forty-five miles, and the elevation of the distributing reservoirs above tide-water is one hundred and ten feet. The company now depends for water chiefly upon natural flow, resort to the pump being had only in dry seasons.

The present sources of supply are: Trumbull reservoir, 60 acres; Island Brook reservoir, 62 acres; Bunnell's Pond reservoir, 50 acres; Bunnell's Upper Pond, 45 acres; Ox-stream reservoir, 15 acres; Horse Tavern reservoir, 5 acres; Distributing reservoir, 3 acres; total 240 acres.

The officers of the company are: President, P. T. Barnum; Secretary, C. H. Thorp; Treasurer, Amos S. Treat; Superintendent, George Richardson; Auditor, Samuel Wilmot; Directors, P. T. Barnum, Amos S. Treat, N. Wheeler, T. B. DeForest, J. Richardson, Samuel Wilmot, William H. Perry, Samuel W. Baldwin.

The Bridgeport Light-house.—The late Capt. Abraham McNeil established a light at the entrance of Bridgeport Harbor about the year 1844, which was at first a lantern upon the end of a buoy, afterwards a whale-boat decked over and carrying a light, and then a group of five piles with a lantern upon the centre one. In 1851, upon the petition of Capt. John Brooks, a small light-house was erected here by the government, the predecessor of the present one which was built in 1871. It is located about one and a half miles from the city, and consists of a tower and dwelling painted white, with slate-colored Mansard roof and black lantern. The house stands upon iron piles. In entering the harbor vessels must pass to the eastward and not nearer than two hundred feet. The light is a fixed, red one, fifty-three feet above the sea-level, and the fog-signal is a cast-steel bell struck by machinery every fifteen seconds. S. Adolphus McNeil is light-house keeper.

St. John's Lodge, No. 3, of Free and Accepted Masons, of Bridgeport, was founded under a charter dated February 12, 1762, and issued by George Harrison, Grand Master of the province of New York, to Eleazer Hubbell of Stratfield, in the county of Fairfield and colony of Connecticut. There was then no Grand Lodge in Connecticut; there being but two local lodges—Hiram, No. 1, of New Haven, instituted in 1750, and St. John's, No. 2, of Middletown, instituted in 1754. The first meeting of St. John's Lodge at Stratfield under its charter was at the house of Capt. Samuel Wakeman which stood on the street now called Park avenue, a short distance south of State street, February 15, 1762, there being five members present, namely, Arnout Cannon, of the city of New York, who officiated as Master, *pro tem.*: Joseph Knapp and Isaac Young, of Fairfield; Eleazer Hubbell, of Stratfield; and J. Anderson, who acted as secretary, and was perhaps a visiting brother, as his name occurs but once afterwards in the records of this lodge. It was a special meeting called for the purpose of initiating David Wheeler and Wolcott Chauncey. The first regular meeting was held at the house of Richard Hubbell, who lived on the street now called Clinton avenue, February 24, 1762. On July 14th of the same year occurred the first election of officers, when Eleazer Hubbell was chosen Master.

The meetings continued to be held in Stratfield until December 8, 1762, when the lodge was removed to the house of Isaac Young, in Fairfield. Two years later it was removed to "the sign of the Anchor," probably this was the inn at Fairfield village. In January, 1763, it was voted that the lodge should have a seal and parchment, and that the secretary should charge three shillings for giving a certificate. The initiation fee was three pounds ten shillings until 1780, when it was fixed at three pounds silver money. Several items recorded show that the "refreshments" were what would now be called convivial; for among the furnishings for the lodge-room were glasses and a punch-bowl, while by special vote it was made the duty of the steward "to provide necessaries for the lodge, rum, sugar, pipes and tobacco." Frequent mention is made, in the records, of the celebration



of the two St. John's Days—June 24th and December 27th, when the members of the lodge and invited guests usually dined together after listening to a sermon by some of the clergy. The Rev. Andrew Elliot, of Fairfield, was a frequent guest upon these occasions, and the names of the Rev. Messrs. Lamson, Sayre, Baldwin and Shelton also occur in this connection. Tokens of good will were often voted to the officiating clergymen, such as a piece of calico (then seventy-five cents a yard) for a summer gown to the Rev. Mr. Elliot, a pair of silk gloves to the Rev. Mr. Stebbins in return for a "very ingenuous and pathetic discourse" in memory of a brother lost at sea. The following also, dated February 25, 1793: "Voted unanimously, That Bros. Lacey and Cannon wait on the Rev. Philo Shelton and present him with the thanks of this lodge, as likewise one guinea, for his excellent discourse on St. John's Day, 27th December 1792, at New-field."

Among the prominent members of the lodge while it remained in Fairfield, were Jonathan Bulkley, who for seventeen years was elected Master; General Elijah Abel, the county sheriff; Lieut. Isaac Jarvis and Capt. Samuel Smedley, of Revolutionary fame, the latter, afterwards the collector of customs for Fairfield District; and Dr. Francis Forgue, the leading physician of the village, who for many years was a constant attendant. On Christmas Day, December 25, 1782, the following resolution was passed in the lodge: "That Brother Abel be desired to wait on Brother Forgue and know whether it is his desire that prayers be desired for him at the Throne of Grace, under his present indisposition of body." A few weeks later the brethren followed his body to its last resting-place.

On January 14, 1784, St. John's Lodge participated by its delegates in the formation of the present Grand Lodge of the State, on which occasion Pierrepont Edwards, of New Haven, but afterwards of Bridgeport, was chosen Grand Master. No allusion to either, the Revolution or the War of 1812, is made in the records, but in December, 1799, it was voted, "That the members of the lodge wear suitable mourning upon the arm, during the pleasure of the lodge, in token of

respect for the memory of the late M. W. Grand Master of the United States, George Washington."

During the War of the Revolution intervals of several months occurred in which no meetings were held, and from 1786 to 1789, the meetings were very infrequent and but slenderly attended. In 1789, through the efforts of Josiah Lacey, Lambert Lockwood and Daniel Young, influential members of the order engaged in business at the thriving settlement of Newfield, which centered near the present corner of Water and State streets, in Bridgeport, the lodge was removed to this place. The first meeting was held at the house of Daniel Young, which is still standing on the southwest corner of Union and Water streets, June 24, 1789. Nine members and four visiting brethren were present, and officers were elected, and delegates to the convention chosen; after which the brethren adjourned to the public-house of William Peet, "where they dined and drank in good harmony."

On January 27, 1790, the lodge voted to meet at the house of Mr. William Peet, innkeeper, upon the north side of State street, where the post-office now stands, "until a more convenient place can be provided," and on December 14, 1791, it was voted "to remove to the chambers of Brother Josiah Lacey's house," which stood on the south side of State street, between Main and Water. On December 12, 1792, it was voted to remove to the house of Isaac Hinman, which stood on the southwest corner of Wall and Water streets.

From 1809 to 1812, by order of the Grand Lodge, this lodge was obliged to meet within one mile of the court-house, in the town of Fairfield. In 1812, it returned to the house of Ephraim Knapp, who succeeded Mr. Hinman on the corner of Wall and Water streets, and since then it has met in Bridgeport.

During the years 1831 and 1832, on account of the supposed abduction of Morgan, public feeling ran high against Free Masonry. It was accused of being an institution dangerous to the community and injurious to morality and religion. To meet this, a defense of Freemasonry, signed by fifty members of St. John's Lodge, was published in the local newspapers, and among the names were the following well known

men: Hanford Lyon, Philo Hurd, Wilson Hawley, Gen. Enoch Foot, Charles Foote, William Peet, Rev. H. R. Judah, rector of St. John's Church, Dr. William B. Nash, Abijah Hawley, Ezekiel Hubbell, Eli Thompson, and Gideon Thompson, as well as others of equal standing in the community. After 1847, Masonry began to revive, and meetings were held at first in the old lodge-room, in the upper story of the school-house No. 200 State street, afterwards upon the north-west corner of State and Water streets, then over Ferris Hurd's store on Water street, at the foot of State, and finally, in 1855, in the present well known and elegant rooms in the Sturdevant Building, corner of Main and Bank streets.

On February 12, 1862, the centennial anniversary of St. John's Lodge No. 3, was celebrated by interesting exercises held in the First Methodist Episcopal Church, and a supper at Franklin Hall, at which about four hundred members of the order with invited guests were present.

The present membership of St. John's Lodge No. 3, is about five hundred.

The Corinthian Lodge, No. 104, was chartered May 22, 1868, and now numbers about one hundred members. It meets in the same rooms as the St. John's Lodge.

Hamilton Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar, was chartered, under the name of Hamilton Encampment, May 10, 1855, with sixteen charter members, all of whom had originally belonged to Clinton Commandery.

The following are the names and dates of organization of other Masonic bodies in Bridgeport:

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 13, R. A. M., October 21, 1813.

Jerusalem Council, No. 16, R. and S. M., in 1827.

DeWitt Clinton Lodge of Perfection, in May, 1858.

Pequonnock Chapter, R. C., June 1, 1858.

Washington Council, P. of J., June 1, 1858.

Lafayette Consistory, S. P. of R. S., June 1, 1858.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows.—The Quinnipiac Lodge, of New Haven, instituted September 3, 1839, was the introduction of the society of Independent Order of Odd Fellows into Connecticut. In April, 1840, Charter Oak Lodge, No. 2, of Hartford, and Middlesex Lodge, No. 3, of East Haddam, were founded, followed June 11, 1841, by that of the Pequonnock Lodge, No. 4, of Bridgeport, the petition for which was signed by George H. Johnson, John M. Wilson, Gilson Landon, Samuel L. Eldred, and George Walters, all of this city. The first place of meeting was in a small room in the upper story of number 35 Wall street, but in January, 1845, a larger hall was occupied at number 407 Water street. On February 4, 1847, Arcanum Lodge, No. 41, was instituted, its first officers being Ira Morse, N. G.; W. H. Lacey, V. G.; W. H. Williams, Secretary; L. C. Shepard, Treasurer. The place of meeting was the same with the Pequonnock Lodge. For a number of years these lodges prospered financially and numerically, but the interest having declined, and secret societies generally being out of favor with the public, in 1856 Arcanum Lodge surrendered its charter, and in 1860 its example was followed by Pequonnock Lodge.

Steuben Lodge, No. 83, of this city, was instituted April 1, 1867, and for a long time met at the old hall on Water street, but on July 9, 1879, having greatly increased in membership and in funds, it removed to its present elegant rooms in Stanton block, on State street. The charter of the Pequonnock Lodge was renewed February 2, 1869, on petition of Martin Concord, F. H. Stevens, J. L. Roberts, Ebenezer Wheeler, and Lewis Sherman, former members. Its meetings were held at first on Water street, but in January, 1871, it removed to the hall over the People's Savings Bank, corner of Main and Bank streets, and on April 19, 1873, to its present hall in the upper story of the Burroughs Building, on the corner of Main and John streets. These rooms were fitted, frescoed, furnished, and carpeted very handsomely by the lodge, and the hall is the largest occupied in the State by the order. Arcanum Lodge, No. 41, was revived March 17, 1875, and meets at present in the hall of the Pequonnock Lodge,



while Lessing, No. 94, organized December 14, 1874, has always met over the People's Savings Bank, and, like its parent, Steuben Lodge, works in the German language.

In the year 1876 it was thought advisable to begin to hold meetings of the order in East Bridgeport, and Harris Lodge, No. 99, was begun October 27th of that year, at number 224 East Main street, with thirty-eight members; but a severe storm having unroofed the building, the lodge removed to its present rooms on East Washington avenue, about January 1, 1877. Charity Lodge, No. 4, and Friendship Lodge, No. 13, Degree of Rebekah, were instituted May 7, 1870, and on February 13, 1874, the latter working in the German language. Both of these bodies are composed of members of the other subordinate lodges and their wives, and are in a flourishing condition.

Stratfield Encampment, No. 23, was instituted July 16, 1869, with seven charter members, and meets in the hall of Pequonnock Lodge. The whole number admitted to membership in it is 231. It now numbers about 100, including a battalion of about forty uniformed patriarchs. Bridgeport Encampment, No. 22, was chartered May 17, 1870, and meets in the hall of Steuben Lodge, on State street. Its membership is about ninety. Each of the lodges and encampments makes its own by-laws respecting the amount of admission fees and weekly and funeral benefits.

The Mutual Aid Association, composed of odd fellows throughout the State, has about 400 members in Bridgeport. It pays upon the death of a member \$1,500 in one class, and \$500 in another class. There is also a sick benefit association in connection with the Pequonnock and Arcanum Lodges, which pays five dollars per week during sickness, in addition to the regular benefits paid by the lodge. Another mutual aid association of members of these two lodges has about 100 names upon its roll, each one of whom pays two dollars upon the decease of any member of the association.

In addition to the necessary expenses of fitting up lodges and rents, there has been paid for relief of members of Bridgeport organizations since the revival of the order, in 1867, not far from \$18,000, while the whole number of persons admitted to membership during the same period is about 1,200.

In addition to the masons and odd fellows, there are in Bridgeport more than fifty societies of various descriptions, holding regular meetings, and some of them doing excellent work. Among them are some fifteen different temperance organizations, a Bible society, the Knights of Pythias and Knights of Honor, a dramatic society, a medical association, the St. George, Caledonian, Emmett, and other clubs, the Fireman's Benevolent Association, the Ladies' Charitable Society, a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, several military companies, and other singing and gymnastic associations.

Bridgeport Division, No. 24, Sons of Temperance, meets every Tuesday evening at G. A. R. Hall. W. P., Ralph Ritch; W. A., Mary Abbott; R. S., Minnie Hawes; A. R. S., Harry S. Gaylord; F. S., Robert P. Hinckley; Treasurer, Henry Chewenhill; Chaplain, William J. Smith; C., Jennie G. Hawes; A. C., Drucillia Friar; I. S., Charles Comstock; O. S., George J. Mills.

Living Spring Division, No. 22, Sons of Temperance. W. P., Frank W. Mellen; W. A., Sarah F. Jackson; R. S., Charles W. Hinckley; A. R. S., Rosa Kinsella; F. S., Stephen L. Conger; Treasurer, Mrs. C. M. Conger; Chaplain, Mrs. Nellie Thompson; C., Mrs. Sarah Wooten; A. C., Sadie McNaughton; I. S., W. L. Bayles; O. S., Mrs. Electra Cottrell; P. W. P., Mrs. Emma J. Emmons. The regular meeting is held every Monday evening, in Temperance Hall, at 18 Beach street.

Pequonnock Lodge, No. 30, Good Templars. This lodge was instituted March 22, 1866. The following are the present officers: W. C. T., Thomas Walker; Secretary, Mrs. H. E. Havens; Treasurer, Annie E. Fox; P. W. C. T., William H. Fosket; Lodge Deputy, Frederick L. Bray. The regular meeting is held every Friday evening in Grand Army Hall, over the post office.

Nonpareil Lodge, No. 187, Good Templars. The regular meeting is held every Thursday evening in Temperance Hall, in Beach street.



Crystal Fount Temple of Honor and Temperance.

—W. C. T., J. A. Keinsella; W. V. T., L. C. Williams; W. R., L. J. Maynard; W. A. R., Joseph Youngs; W. F. R., H. C. Bartlet; W. T., T. Hands; W. Chaplain, C. Bogardus; W. U., G. Ingalls; W. D. U., F. Jeffers; W. G., J. Rhodes; W. S., J. Sawyer; Trustees, J. A. Keinsella, C. Bogardus, R. W. Davis. The regular meetings are held on Thursday evenings, in Pythian Hall, at 45 Wall street, corner of Main.

Father Matthew Young Men's T. A. B. Society,

was organized October, 1868. President, J. J. Hagerty; Vice-President, John Reilly; Recording Secretary, George T. Kelly; Financial Secretary, John Kearney; Corresponding Secretary, W. H. Barry; Treasurer, Patrick Kane; Marshall, John Maher; Sergeant-at-Arms, Patrick Noonan. The regular meetings are held on the first Sunday and the third Thursday in each month, at number 444 Main street.

St. Mary's T. A. B. Society, was organized May 24, 1868. President, John A. Muldoon; Vice-President, John Curran; Recording Secretary, John O'Hara; Finance Secretary, Thomas E. Hearan; Treasurer, Martin Quinlin. The regular meetings are held the first and third Tuesday evening in each month, in St. Joseph's Convent.

St. Patrick's T. A. B. Society was organized October, 1868. President, Timothy Shanahan; Vice-President, John McCarthy; Secretary, James Noonan; Financial Secretary, John Nagle; Treasurer, Hugh McCaughalty; Marshal, Edward Hanley. The meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month, at 444 Main street.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union.—President, Mrs. C. E. Sanford; Secretary, Mrs. S. R. Wilmot; Treasurer, Miss E. C. Porter; Executive Committee, Mrs. C. E. Sanford, Mrs. S. R. Wilmot, Miss E. C. Porter, Mrs. S. P. Gay, and Miss J. E. Prindle. Woman's meeting on Thursday at 3 o'clock P. M.

The Orphan Asylum.—The Bridgeport Protestant Orphan Asylum was organized December 11, 1867, and incorporated May 6, 1868, "for the purpose of relieving, sup-

porting, and educating children who are friendless and de/olate," Miss Lydia R. Ward, Mrs. Eliza S. W. Jones, Mrs. Mary L. Clapp, and forty-seven other ladies being the incorporators. The building now occupied as an asylum, number 119 Lafayette street, was completed March 31, 1870, and cost \$13,000. The land upon which it stands was the gift of Nathaniel Wheeler, Isaac H. Whiting, and Francis Ives. A new building for hospital purposes has been added at a cost of \$1,000.

The officers of the institution are: Miss Lydia R. Ward, President; Mrs. Edward Sterling, Vice-President; Mrs. S. B. Sumner, Chief Manager; Mrs. Gustav Ohnesorg, Recording Secretary; Miss Henrietta M. Noble, Corresponding Secretary; Miss Georgiana Gossling, Treasurer; Miss S. C. Ward, Mrs. Russell Tomlinson, Providers; Mrs. Russell Tomlinson, Miss S. C. Ward, Mrs. E. L. Gaylord, Standing Committee; and Nathaniel Wheeler, George Mallory, E. S. Hawley, Edward Sterling, Clapp Spooner, and William D. Bishop, Trustees.

The Bridgeport Scientific Society.—In August, 1877, a society under the name of the Bridgeport Society of Natural Science, afterward changed to "The Bridgeport Scientific Society," was formed with the following officers: President, H. N. Powers, D.D.; Vice-President, Clarence Sterling; Secretary, Geo. C. Waldo; Corresponding Secretary, W. L. Sherwood; Treasurer, T. E. Peck; Curator, H. T. Hickok; Librarian, Leonard Sterling. Miss Annie Sterling was afterwards appointed Historian, which position she occupied till her death.

It rapidly increased in numbers, the interest in its work developed largely and the community was very much impressed with its efforts and the various public meetings which it held from time to time. Its museum and library grew to very considerable proportions, and the success of its members in the various fields of study and research adopted by them has been very gratifying. The society has rooms in the Wales Building on Main street, second story, and all except its more important public meetings have been holden there. It has had hundreds of papers read before it, has given hun-



dreds of public lectures by members of the society and scientists from abroad, which have been well attended, and its influence is widely felt and acknowledged. Classes in various scientific branches have been organized under competent instructors, and the work done is of a very satisfactory character. The Rev. Dr. Powers continued president of the society till 1885 when he left Bridgeport, and Mr. Isaac Holden was elected in his place. The present officers are: President, Isaac Holden, Esq.; Vice-President, Charles M. DePuy, Esq.; Secretary, W. T. Van York; Assistant Secretary, Dr. C. S. Hoag; Corresponding Secretary, L. H. Baker; Treasurer, G. J. Brown; Assistant Treasurer, Rev. G. B. Day; Curator, C. K. Averill; Librarian, L. H. Baker. The society has a very fine Herbarium, containing upwards of 500 specimens of local plants, collected largely through the efforts of the President, Mr. Holden, and which is being increased from time to time as new species are discovered.

Hawes' Opera House, located on Fairfield avenue, is the only institution of the kind in the city. Mr. Edmund V. Hawes, a native of Sherman, Conn., came to Bridgeport in 1864, and commenced building this house for an Opera, in August, 1876, and completed it April, 1877, upon land purchased of Hanford Lyon. The dimensions of the theatre are: 60 feet by 110, on the ground floor, with balcony and gallery, having a seating capacity of 1,300. There are four aisles below making sections A. B. C.; three aisles in the balcony making sections D. E. F.; four proscenium boxes seating thirty persons. The proscenium arch is 32 feet; stage 40 feet by 60; height of scenery 20 feet. The building is heated by steam, and is managed by Mr. Hawes, the proprietor. The theatre, for nearly ten years has been occupied by the highest class of dramatic and musical entertainments and lectures, and is a popular place of entertainment.

Bridgeport City Government for 1885-6.

Mayor—Hon. Henry H. Pyle.

Aldermen—1st ward, Civilian Fones; 2d ward, Daniel W. Kissam; 3d ward, Philo H. Skidmore, Jr.; 4th ward, Thomas Ronan, Jr.; 5th ward, Jerome Orcutt; 6th ward, Aurelius Steward.



Aldermen at Large—Jacob B. Klein, Henry A. Bishop, Henry R. Parrott, William Lowe, Daniel M. Ford, Charles Paul.

Councilmen—1st ward, Richard B. Cogswell, Walter Nichols, William Couch ; 2d ward, George B. Whitney, Howard G. Hubbell, William F. Pinkham ; 3d ward, James H. Dorus, John N. Near, Michael Frawley ; 4th ward, Patrick J. Kelly, James A. Howard, John T. Logan ; 5th ward, Horace L. Eames, George E. Somers, Henry T. Hawley ; 6th ward, John B. Sullivan, Rudolph Laubscher, Jacob W. Greninger.

City Clerk—Christopher A. Mooney ; City Treasurer—Tracey B. Warren ; City Auditor—Bernard Keating.

Judge of City Court—Alfred B. Beers ; Deputy Judge—Charles A. Doten ; City Attorney—David B. Lockwood ; Prosecuting Officer—John C. Chamberlin ; City Sheriffs—Joseph H. Perry and Dwight Thompson.

Collector of Assessments—William W. Robinson.

Board of Public Works—Peter W. Wren, Edward R. Ives, George A. Northrop, Charles R. Brothwell, E. G. Burnham, Charles G. Sanford.

Street Commissioner—Bradford D. Pierce.

Park Commissioners—William H. Noble, Albert Eames, William H. Perry, P. T. Barnum.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—Edward Lehman.

City Surveyor—H. G. Scofield.

Fire Marshall—Joseph Hotchkiss.

Janitor—Patrick Lynch.

Board of Health—B. D. Pierce, Doct. Francis J. Young, William R. Palmer ; Clerk—Christopher A. Mooney ; Health Officer—Richard Fitzgibbons.

Mayors of the City of Bridgeport and year of their election.

1836 Isaac Sherman, Jr.,	1865 Stillman S. Clapp,
1837 Daniel Sterling,	1866 Monson Hawley,
1838 Alanson Hamlin,	1868 Jarratt Morford,
1839 Charles Foote,	1869 Monson Hawley,
1840 Charles Bostwick,	1870 Jarratt Morford,
1841 William P. Burrall,	1871 E. B. Goodsell,
1843 James C. Loomis,	1874 Robert T. Clarke,
1844 Henry K. Harral,	1875 Phineas T. Barnum,
1847 Sherwood Sterling,	1876 Jarratt Morford,
1849 Henry K. Harral,	1878 Robert E. DeForest,
1851 John Brooks, Jr.,	1879 John L. Wessells,
1852 Henry K. Harral,	1880 Daniel N. Morgan,
1853 Charles B. Hubbell,	1881 John L. Wessells,
1854 John Brooks, Jr.,	1882 Carlos Curtis,
1855 P. C. Calhoun,	1883 John L. Wessells,
1858 Silas C. Booth,	1884 Daniel N. Morgan,
1860 D. H. Sterling,	1885 Henry H. Pyle.
1863 Clapp Spooner,	1886 Civilian Fones.
1864 Jarratt Morford,	

The following reduced fac-simile certificate was given, as it shows, upon the qualifying of the first Mayor of Bridgeport.



I hereby certify that Isaac Sherman
appeared before me on the 3 day of October
1836 and took the oath required
by the Charter of the City of Bridgeport
to qualify him to act as Mayor of
Said City — Isaac Sherman
Bridgeport October 5 1836 — Justice of Peace

Clerks of the City of Bridgeport and year of their election.

1836 Ira Sherman,	1868 William E. Barnett,
1844 J. H. Adams,	1869 Wilfred E. Norton,
1845 Stephen Hawley,	1870 Stephen S. Blake,
1854 John M. Wilson,	1871 Morris W. Seymour,
1857 Samuel Jones,	1872-3 James King,
1858 George F. Tracy,	1874-5-6 Morris B. Beardsley,
1864 John T. Shelton,	1877-1882 Bernard Keating,
1865 David B. Lockwood,	1883-4-5 Christopher A. Mooney.
1867 George F. Tracy,	

Representatives from Bridgeport.

1822 Enoch Foote,	1840 Joseph Thompson,
1823 Joseph Backus,	1841 James Fitch,
1824 William Peet,	1842 Abijah Hawley,
1825 William DeForest,	1843 Sherwood Sterling,
1826 Noah Plumb,	1844 Alexander Hamilton,
1827 Smith Tweedy,	1845 Dwight Morris,
1828 Thomas C. Wordin,	1846 Joseph F. Crosby,
1829 Smith Tweedy,	1847 Joshua Lord,
1830 Samuel Simons,	1848 Henry F. Huggins,
1831 Enoch Foote,	1849 Silas B. Booth,
1832 Noah Plumb,	1850 William S. Pomeroy,
1833 Smith Tweedy,	1851 Wyllys Lyon,
1834 Noah Plumb,	1852 Wyllys Lyon,
1835 Daniel O. Wheeler,	1853 Joseph F. Crosby,
1836 Smith Tweedy,	1854 Thomas S. Oakley,
1837 William S. Pomeroy,	1855 Silas C. Booth,
1838 Henry Dutton,	1856 James C. Loomis,
1839 Henry Dutton,	1857 Philo C. Calhoun,



1858 Amos S. Treat,
 1859 Allison A. Pettengill,
 1860 James C. Loomis,
 1861 George W. Bacon,
 1862 Amos S. Treat,
 1863 Russell Tomlinson,
 1864 Dwight Morris,
 1865 Samuel Larkin,
 1866 Nathaniel Wheeler,
 1867 George Mallory,
 1868 Nathaniel Wheeler,
 1869 Amos S. Treat,
 1870 Nathaniel Wheeler,
 1871 William D. Bishop,
 1872 Nathaniel Wheeler,
 1873 Goodwin Stoddard,
 1874 Robert Hubbard,
 1875 Carlos Curtis,
 David B. Lockwood,
 1876 Robert Hubbard,
 George W. Bacon,

1877 Carlos Curtis,
 George W. Bacon,
 1878 Phineas T. Barnum,
 Stephen Nichols,
 1879 Phineas T. Barnum,
 Amos S. Treat,
 1880 Dwight Morris,
 John Sexton,
 1881 David M. Read,
 Robert E. DeForest,
 1882 A. H. Abernethy,
 Peter W. Wren,
 1883 Daniel N. Morgan,
 David B. Lockwood,
 1884 William H. Noble,
 Albert M. Tallmadge,
 1885 John J. Phelan,
 L. Myron Slade,
 1886 John J. Phelan,
 Henry A. Bishop.

The Fire Department of Bridgeport. One of the first public measures of the citizens of the village of Newfield, was to form themselves into a fire company, which was incorporated in 1797. Another act in regard to it was passed in the following year, and in 1834 a third fire company was chartered, followed, in 1840, by the Phoenix Fire Company, No. 4, and the Pequonnock Fire Company, of North Bridgeport, and in 1845 by the Bridgeport Hose Company. The engines at first were of the kind that the water was poured into them and then thrown by the instrument upon the fire, so that at the alarm of fire the citizens ran to the place with their fire bucket in hand, formed a line to a convenient well, and passed the buckets filled, and poured the water into the engine tank. The first very large fire occurred in 1835, when the buildings of a considerable district in the heart of the city were consumed.

A great conflagration occurred in the morning of December 11, 1845, when the buildings on the eastern side of Water street and both sides of Wall and State streets were destroyed. Forty-nine buildings were consumed, and the loss was estimated at \$125,000. See cut on page 305.



The first effective engine was that purchased for company No. 5, which was built in New York at a cost of \$1,000. Within a week after its arrival the steam flour mill near the corner of Water street and South avenue was burned, and ten days after the Methodist Episcopal Church edifice shared the same fate. Previous to 1847 there was no organized fire department, the several companies being not only independent of each other, but frequently antagonistic. A by-law drafted by R. B. Lacey, providing for the appointment of a board of engineers and the enforcement of better discipline, was adopted in that year, and continued in force until the adoption of a paid fire department. The steam fire engine D. H. Sterling, No. 1, was purchased by the city in January, 1864, and proved so successful that in May, 1865, steamer Proctor, No. 2, was purchased, and in August of the same year steamer Excelsior, No. 5.

In October, 1872, the volunteer fire department was disbanded, and a paid department substituted for it. Charles A. Gerdenier, who had been at the head of the volunteer organization since 1869, was appointed chief engineer and has held this important office since that time. This department of the city government is equipped with the usual engines, bell-towers, alarms, common in the cities of the day, at a cost of over one hundred thousand dollars.

Besides the chief engineer, the active force of the department consists of nine assistant engineers, seven drivers, and forty-five hose and hook and ladder men; in all, sixty-two persons. The government is in the hands of a board of commissioners. It has had good success since its organization in subduing fires, although there have been several serious conflagrations effecting considerable loss of property, such as the burning of the steamboat Alice at the dock, July 22, 1852, loss, \$25,000; the carriage factory of F. Wood and Company, on Broad street, December 22, 1865; the lumber yard of Beardsley, Wilson and Company, May 28, 1871; the planing mill and lumber yard of S. Nickerson and Son, September 30, 1872; the Courtland Block, February 21, 1873; the Presbyterian church, December 9, 1874; the cabinet factory of the Wheeler and Wilson Company, December 14, 1875; and the

hat factory of Glover Sanford and Sons, June 7, 1877, on which occasion eleven lives were lost by the falling of a wall; and the burning of the large building of the Howe Manufacturing Company in 1883.

The present commissioners of the fire department are: Samuel W. Baldwin, William E. Seeley, Eli Dewhurst, Henry Atwater. The Chief Engineer is Charles A. Gerdenier, and the assistants are: Joseph B. King, Peter Ring, Daniel Holden.

Adams Express Company.—William F. Harden was the first man to commence running an express between Boston and New York in February, 1839, and is regarded as the founder of the express business in this country. In May, 1840, Alvin Adams commenced in opposition to Harden, and for several years Mr. Adams was his own messenger, cashier, clerk and porter. In 1843, he first began to use horses and wagons in delivering packages, and soon afterwards Adams and Company made a contract with the Treasury Department for the transportation of government funds, which their successors still continue. On the opening of the New York and New Haven railroad, October 26, 1848, a daily express was established.

The office of the Adams Express Company was afterwards located under the Sterling House, but subsequently removed to the York House building, on the West side of Water, near Union street, and thence to its present location, in the depot building at the foot of Fairfield avenue. The Adams Express Company was formed by the consolidation of some half a dozen other lines, July 1, 1854. The headquarters of the New England division were removed from Hartford to Bridgeport, April 2, 1865; to Boston, September 1, 1868; to Hartford, September 2, 1869, and again to Bridgeport February 6, 1876, which is still the central office in New England. The officers and representatives of this company residing at Bridgeport are: Henry Sanford, General Superintendent; Clapp Spooner, Resident Manager, and Superintendent of the New England Division; William L. Hubbell, Auditor; S. J. B. Dibble, Cashier; John C. Curtis, Agent.

The Grain Elevator of Bridgeport is the only one on the coast between New York and Boston. It was erected in 1871, by the firm of Crane and Hurd, and grew out of their connection and experience with the grain trade in the West. It is forty by fifty feet at its base, and one hundred feet in height. It is run by a twenty-five horse power engine and the labor of five men, and is capable of taking in and storing eight thousand bushels of grain per day of ten hours, from either a railroad car or boat at the dock. As many as one and a half million bushels of grain have passed through this elevator in a single year. Mr. John Hurd is at present the proprietor.

The Gas Light Company of Bridgeport was incorporated in 1849, and commenced business in December, 1851, with seventy-six private consumers and twenty-six public street lamps. Among the original corporators named in the charter were, Horace Nichols, R. B. Mason, W. P. Burrall, Philo Hurd, and Hanford Lyon. H. K. Harrall was the first president, and P. C. Calhoun the first treasurer. After the decease of Mr. Harrall, in June, 1854, his place was filled by the election of Hanford Lyon, who held the office until April 2, 1868, when he was succeeded by Amos S. Treat, who has continued in the same to the present time. The original cost of the works was seventy-five thousand dollars, but more than one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars additional has been since expended upon them. The late John Cornwall was secretary and treasurer for twenty years, from 1854 to 1874 and C. A. Gerdenier the present superintendent has been connected with the company since 1864.

The officers of the company at present are: Hon. Amos S. Treat, President; L. N. Van Keuren, Secretary and Treasurer; S. B. Beardsley, A. S. Treat, William H. Perry, Horace Nichols, A. C. Hobbs, S. C. Trubee, H. L. Clark, William R. Higby, William B. Hincks, Directors, and C. A. Gerdenier, Superintendent.

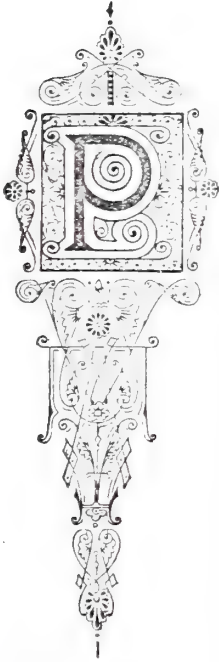
The Horse Railroad Company of Bridgeport was incorporated in 1865, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, their charter giving the privilege to extend the line



CHAPTER VI.

THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT.

(CONTINUED).



PUBLIC parks constitute a noticeable feature of the city of Bridgeport. The extent of territory in them, with the public greens—three in all—is about two hundred and forty acres, —Seaside Park having about one hundred, Beardsley Park about one hundred and twenty-five, and Washington Park, Pembroke avenue—Old Mill Green—and the Parade Ground, over fifteen more. This extent of park territory gives one acre to every 170 persons of the city, if there are, as supposed, 40,000 inhabitants in it, which is, probably, a larger park area to the number of inhabitants than in any city in the United States, and hence the propriety of the name “Park City.” It is said that “the park system of Chicago, Ill.,¹ is one of the most extensive in the world.” It has 1,850 acres of parks to 500,000 inhabitants, or about one acre to 330 persons, and therefore Bridgeport has nearly double the acreage of parks to the number of inhabitants that Chicago has, and is so far ahead of that city.

Seaside Park lies along the shore of the Sound in the southern part of the city, about one mile from the post office, on State street. Public attention was first directed to the shore of Long Island Sound, in front of the city of Bridgeport, as an appropriate and picturesque place for a city park, by the encampment of the seventeenth regiment upon it in the summer of 1862, and the experiments of General Gillmore with the Ames gun in the same locality two years later. On

¹ The Encyclopædia Britannica, vol. v, 613.





SEASIDE PARK.

October 1, 1863, an article in the "Standard" urged the importance of one or more public parks for the city, and on September 9, 1864, another article in the same journal recommended the purchase of this tract of land for such a purpose, describing it in the following graphic terms:

"It is a beautiful piece of land, free from rocks, skirted for a considerable part of the way on the north by fine forest trees, and bounded on the south for its entire length by the sparkling waters of the Sound. From this water-front, which is cool and pleasant in the hottest days, a picturesque and enchanting water view is obtained. On the left, as we stand facing the harbor, is the city, with its tall spires and chimneys pointing skyward from among the trees; the harbor, dotted with its sailing craft, and the wooded point opposite, with its cottages; to the west the green, sloping shores of Black Rock stretch far around to the lighthouse. Far away to the south, across the Sound, rise the hills of Long Island in picturesque beauty, while upon the intervening, placid waters, float a constant panorama of white-sailed vessels, passing up and down these blue waters of the Sound."

These articles attracted the attention of leading citizens, who began to move in the matter, and Mr. Frederick Hurd called on the owners of the land and secured their pledges to give a number of acres for the purposes of a park. Messrs. Phineas T. Barnum and James C. Loomis favored the enterprise from the first, and the former, especially, pushed it with his usual energy. Early in November, 1864, a survey of the land was made by E. R. Lambert and George Beckwith, and a map of it hung in the post office, showing the area of the proposed park to be about thirty-five acres, thirteen of which were located in the town of Bridgeport, and the remainder within the territory since annexed, but at that time a part of the township of Fairfield. Additions were made to this territory in 1868, for the purposes of a trotting park, so that there were about seventy acres, and the whole was gradually improved from year to year until the autumn of 1884, when Mr. P. T. Barnum gave nearly thirty acres more, by which the area and boulevard are extended west to Black Rock Harbor. This boulevard will eventually be one of the most beautiful

and charming in the nation. The trotting course within this park is one of the finest of the kind, being an amphitheatre from eight to fifteen feet below the carriage bed of the boulevard, and the track passing around a placid lake, the surface of which is about on a level with the water of the Sound outside the boulevard.

Two monuments already grace this park, very appropriately; the one is the soldiers' monument and the other the statue of Elias Howe, Jr., the inventor; the latter was a present to the city upon condition that it should furnish an appropriate pedestal, which it did, and the statue was placed upon it, facing the ocean, in the autumn of 1884. The location of it is very fitting and advantageous in every respect.

The soldiers' monument is the pride of the city, for, while it is not the most expensive of its kind, nor grand in magnitude, it is beautiful, appropriate, elegant as a work of art, and gives great satisfaction to all the people. It is a monument to all the soldiers in the late war, although but the names of those who died during the war are inscribed upon it. This monument was secured by the ladies' Soldiers' Monument Association, aided by a special appropriation by the town of Bridgeport, and cost about \$30,000. At the close of the late war the Soldiers' Aid Society, composed of more than one hundred and fifty women, which had done a great and noble work during the war, resolved itself into the Soldiers' Monument Association, and by a most successful career they raised more than \$10,000, to which was added by the town about \$18,500, and with this united sum the society placed in the park the very satisfactory monument as it now stands.

The Beardsley Park is located in the northeastern part of the city, bordering on the Pequonnock river and lake, and contains in all over one hundred and twenty-five acres of beautiful and appropriate territory, rich in soil and varied in its scenery. The Housatonic railroad passes on the opposite or western side of the lake, and there will eventually be a station to accommodate picnic parties and others in visiting the park, and soon the horse railroad will be extended northward to the southern end of the park, when all the city can reach it with ready and easy facility.



The land contained in this park was donated by Mr. James W. Beardsley to the city upon certain conditions of improvement within a certain number—a few only—of years, which conditions have thus far been met, and there is not the least fear of failure in completing the same. The land—every acre of it—was purchased by Mr. Beardsley at different times and was no part of the old homestead which descended to him from his uncle, James Walker. The greater part of this land now included in the park was laid out originally to Robert Walker in 1715, and held in the Walker family nearly one hundred years, when it was sold, and after some years was purchased by Mr. Beardsley, and by him cultivated as a part of his farm a number of years and then given to the city, as above stated. The homestead which descended to him through his mother, Betsey Walker, daughter of James Walker, Jr., who married Elisha H. Beardsley, father of James W., is now Mr. Beardsley's residence, kept very choicely as the home of his ancestors for three generations, or since 1739.²

"The site of the Beardsley Park, compared with the Seaside Park, is elevated, broad, of diversified surface, and naturally of a pastoral, sylvan, and idyllic aspect. Although it commands a distant view of the sea, its best and most characteristic outlook is over a great landscape in the opposite direction. Except when broken by ledges of rock, the modeling of its surface is large, simple, and graceful, and the outcropping ledges present valuable elements and opportunities for producing picturesque incidents. Fine views are to be had from the upper part of Walker's Hill, especially to the northward, eastward, and southward. At the north end of Walker's Hill there is a prominent, smooth-topped ledge, upon which people standing will have before them a rarely beautiful prospect, the finest from the park."³

Acceptance of the Park by the City.

"OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, BRIDGEPORT, April 18, 1878.

JAMES W. BEARDSLEY, ESQ.:—

Dear Sir:—At a meeting of the Common Council of Bridgeport, held on Monday, March 25, 1878, the following Resolutions, offered by Councilman Middlebrook, were adopted:

² See page 91 of this book.

³ Extract from the Report of the Landscape Architects, F. L. and J. C. Olmstead, September, 1884.



Resolved, That the heartfelt thanks of the City of Bridgeport are due to and are hereby, through their representatives, the Common Council of said City, tendered to their fellow citizen, James W. Beardsley, for his magnificent gift to the City of a public Park, and that the appreciation of this body and of the public of his public spirit, may be perpetuated, it is further

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the City Records, and a copy thereof be presented to Mr. Beardsley.

Attest,

BERNARD KEATING, *City Clerk.*"

Mr. James Walker Beardsley, son of Elisha H. and Betsey (Walker) Beardsley, has been a farmer all his life, and is still actively engaged in the same. He is a native of the town of Monroe, where his father pursued the same occupation, and is descended in regular line from William Beardsley, one of the first settlers of Stratford; and on his mother's side from the Rev. Peter Prudden, of Milford, by his great great grandmother, Abigail Prudden; also from the Rev. Richardson Minor, of Unity, by her mother, Prudence Minor, wife of Philip Benjamin, as also through his mother's father, from Robert Walker, one of the founders of the Old South Church, of Boston, in 1669. Mr. Beardsley is not only interested in his ancestry, searching them out by diligent inquiry, but has carefully preserved many old manuscripts and books which have been of much assistance in presenting a number of items in this history in a much more correct form than they otherwise could have been.

It cannot be doubted that he takes great satisfaction in seeing the improvements which the city is making from year to year in the Beardsley Park, and to which he gives considerable attention by way of consultation by special request of the Park Commissioners.

Officers of the Bridgeport National Bank.⁴

Munson Hawley, President; F. N. Benham, Cashier; Directors: Munson Hawley, Thomas B. Bartram, Plumb N. Fairchild, Carlos Curtis, Thomas B. DeForest, David M. Read, John M. Wheeler, Rowland B. Lacey, Frank N. Benham.

⁴ This list of officers should have appeared on page 142 of this book, in connection with the history of the bank to which they belong.



James W. Beechey



The City Savings Bank.—The petition for the incorporation of the City Savings Bank, of Bridgeport, was drawn up and presented to the legislature by D. F. Hollister, and a charter was granted for the institution in May, 1859. At the first meeting of the incorporators, held at the city council rooms July 16, 1859, the following officers were elected: President, Hanford Lyon; Vice-Presidents, Russell Tomlinson, D. H. Sterling, Ira Gregory, D. W. Thompson; Secretary and Treasurer, S. M. Middlebrook; Trustees, Sherman Hartwell, P. C. Calhoun, Horace Nichols, D. F. Hollister, George P. Stockwell, Stephen Lounsbury, H. N. Hayes, John Brooks, A. A. Pettengill, E. B. Goodsell, Burr Knapp, R. T. Clarke, Thomas Hawley, Josiah Baylies, and S. C. Booth.

To commence business rooms were hired on Wall street, near the corner of Water, and several of the trustees deposited one hundred dollars each in the new bank. Two of these accounts, those of Horace Nichols and George P. Stockwell, are still open. Two others, those of Hanford Lyon and Josiah Baylies, were allowed to accumulate for about twenty-four years, and when closed amounted to nearly \$400 each, the increase being due to interest solely, no additional deposit having been made. In this connection it may be mentioned that the sum total of the fifty-three dividends declared by the bank from January, 1860, to January, 1886, is about \$1,700,000. Mr. Middlebrook continued to act as treasurer until his death, in 1883, and to his prudence and fidelity the success of the bank was largely due. He was a man highly respected in this and adjoining communities. Soon after the decease of Mr. Middlebrook the trustees made choice of William B. Hincks as treasurer, and William N. Middlebrook as secretary.

Mr. Lyon died in 1879, and was succeeded as president by Ira Gregory, who died in 1883. Horace Nichols, who is now president of the bank, has been one of its officers for nearly twenty-seven years, and has witnessed its increase until its depositors number over 6,300, and its assets amount to about \$2,400,000.

An interesting event in the history of the bank was the run, which took place February 17th and 18th, 1877, during which about \$150,000 was drawn out by depositors who had become alarmed without any apparent cause. All calls were promptly met by Mr. Middlebrook, the treasurer, the bank being kept open two hours later than usual for the purpose. Offers of loans from individuals and institutions to the amount of nearly a million dollars were declined, the help not being needed.

About the beginning of the year 1884 it was felt by the trustees that the rooms on Wall street which had hitherto been rented for banking purposes, though twice enlarged, had become entirely inadequate, and that the City Savings Bank should possess a permanent home of its own. After careful deliberation it was decided to purchase one-half the lot of the Bridgeport National Bank, on the corner of Main and Bank streets, and that both institutions should unite in erecting a structure to be known as the United Bank building, of Bridgeport. Messrs. Nichols, Hollister and Hincks were appointed a building committee on the part of the City Savings Bank, to coöperate with Messrs. Read, Wheeler and DeForest, the committee of the Bridgeport National Bank, and full powers were given to them by the trustees. The utmost care was taken by the committee; all the leading buildings in New York City, and not a few in New England, were visited, with a view of combining as many desirable features as possible in the new edifice. Plans embodying these features were prepared by W. R. Briggs, architect, and on the 27th of August, 1884, contracts were signed. Sixteen months later, on December



15, 1885, the building was fully completed and occupied for business. The cost of the north half, which is owned and occupied by the City Savings Bank, including land, furniture and its massive fire and burglar proof vault, is some \$43,000, upon which amount the rentals received yield a return of about four and a half per cent. The new banking rooms are well lighted, heated and ventilated, and may safely be said to be second to none in New England in point of convenience and beauty of fitting up, while their location is the best in the city.

Following are the officers of the City Savings Bank for the year 1886: President, Horace Nichols; Vice-Presidents, D. F. Hollister, David M. Read, Courtland Kelsey, John M. Wheeler; Treasurer, William B. Hincks; Secretary, William N. Middlebrook; Trustees, Horace F. Hatch, F. W. Parrott, Burr Curtis, C. K. Averill, Levi B. Booth, George P. Stockwell, D. F. Hollister, Horace Nichols, George K. Birdsey, Edwin Banks, David M. Read, John M. Wheeler, Edward A. Lewis, Courtland Kelsey, W. N. Middlebrook, William B. Hincks; Bookkeeper and Teller, Willard S. Plumb.



The People's Savings Bank, represented in the above cut, was organized in May, 1860, under the laws of the State of Connecticut, with the following persons as corporators, "by the name, style and title of the People's Savings Bank, of Bridgeport, Conn.:" Nathaniel Wheeler, James C. Loomis, Sherwood Sterling, Ira Sherman, P. C. Calhoun, George B. Waller, Frederick Wood, Samuel B. Ferguson, Robert T. Clarke, Abijah Hawley, Thomas Ransom, James Daskam, Elbert E. Hubbell, William G. Lineburgh, William H. Perry, Henry Burr, and



Stephen Hawley. The action of the legislature was approved June 15, 1860, and on the second day of July following, at four o'clock P. M., the following corporators met at the office of Sherman and Marsh for the purpose of organization: P. C. Calhoun, Ira Sherman, George B. Waller, Frederick Wood, Samuel B. Ferguson, Robert C. Clarke, Abijah Hawley, Thomas Ransom, James Daskam, Elbert E. Hubbell, William G. Lineburgh, Henry Burr and Stephen Hawley. P. C. Calhoun was chosen chairman, and Stephen Hawley, secretary. Stephen S. Booth and G. Bradley Sanford were voted in as corporators. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Ira Sherman, President; George B. Waller, Vice-President; Stephen Hawley, Treasurer; and Abijah Hawley, Thomas Ransom, Nathaniel Wheeler, S. B. Ferguson, James Daskam, Elbert E. Hubbell, William G. Lineburgh, William H. Perry, G. Bradley Sanford, and Stephen S. Booth, a Board of Trustees. A seal was adopted with the inscription, People's Savings Bank, of Bridgeport.

Rooms over the Pequonnock Bank were rented and the first loan made July 9, 1860, which was on a house and lot on Myrtle avenue, and on July 1, 1861, the first semi-annual dividend was declared, which was three per cent.

In addition to the above the following named persons have served as corporators: Samuel W. Baldwin, Egbert Marsh, William E. Seeley, D. W. Kissam, Edward W. Marsh, Stephen S. Booth (deceased), G. Bradley Sanford (deceased), Russell Tomlinson (deceased), Philo H. Skidmore (removed), Salem H. Wales (removed), Charles B. Hotchkiss, Francis W. Marsh, Eli C. Smith, John E. Pond, William H. Rockwell. Ira Sherman, the first president, died in May, 1869, and was succeeded by George B. Waller, the first vice-president, and is still the president of the bank, having occupied that position nearly seventeen years.

In July, 1869, William G. Lineburgh was elected first vice-president and William E. Seeley, second vice-president. The former resigned his position as vice-president and trustee in 1878, and Mr. Seeley was elected first vice-president, which position he still holds, and James Daskam was elected second vice-president, and continued in that office until his decease, in November, 1879. In the December following Russell Tomlinson was elected second vice-president, and served until his decease, in April, 1885. Mr. Egbert Marsh, the present incumbent was elected second vice-president in July, 1885.

Mr. Stephen Hawley, the first secretary and treasurer, died in November, 1861, and Mr. Egbert Marsh was elected to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year. In January, 1862, Courtland Kelsey was elected secretary and treasurer, and served until May, 1862, when he resigned, and Philip E. Lockwood was chosen his successor. He resigned in June, 1864, and was succeeded by Mr. J. F. Hanford, who served until 1868, when he resigned. At the January meeting Mr. Egbert Marsh was elected secretary and treasurer, and served thirteen years, when, in July, 1881, his resignation was reluctantly accepted. His successor was Mr. Francis W. Marsh, who had been several years teller of the bank, and he resigned, to take effect June 1, 1886, and Edward W. Marsh has been elected to this position.

On January 1, 1872, Mr. Homer S. Curtis was appointed the first teller in this bank, but found it necessary to resign in July, 1873, on account of ill health. He was succeeded by Mr. Francis W. Marsh until July, 1881, when he was elected secretary and treasurer, and Mr. Orange Merwin succeeded him as teller. He has resigned, to take effect June 1, 1886, and Mr. Frank Hubbard has been



appointed his successor. Messrs. F. W. Marsh and Orange Merwin retire from this bank, having associated with them Mr. H. C. Lemmon, for the purpose of doing a general insurance and banking business, with a safe deposit vault.

The present officers are: President, George B. Waller; first Vice-President, William E. Seeley; second Vice-President, Egbert Marsh; Secretary and Treasurer, Francis W. Marsh; Teller, Orange Merwin.

The Board of Trustees are: Samuel W. Baldwin, Edward W. Marsh, D. W. Kissam, Eli C. Smith, John E. Pond, Elbert E. Hubbell, C. B. Hochkiss, William H. Rockwell, Henry Atwater, F. A. Bartram.

In December, 1864, this bank purchased the lot on the corner of Main and Bank streets, and in 1870 erected the building on it which it now occupies, the bank being located in the front rooms, on the second floor. The First National Bank have rented the first floor, and the remaining portion of the building is rented for various purposes.

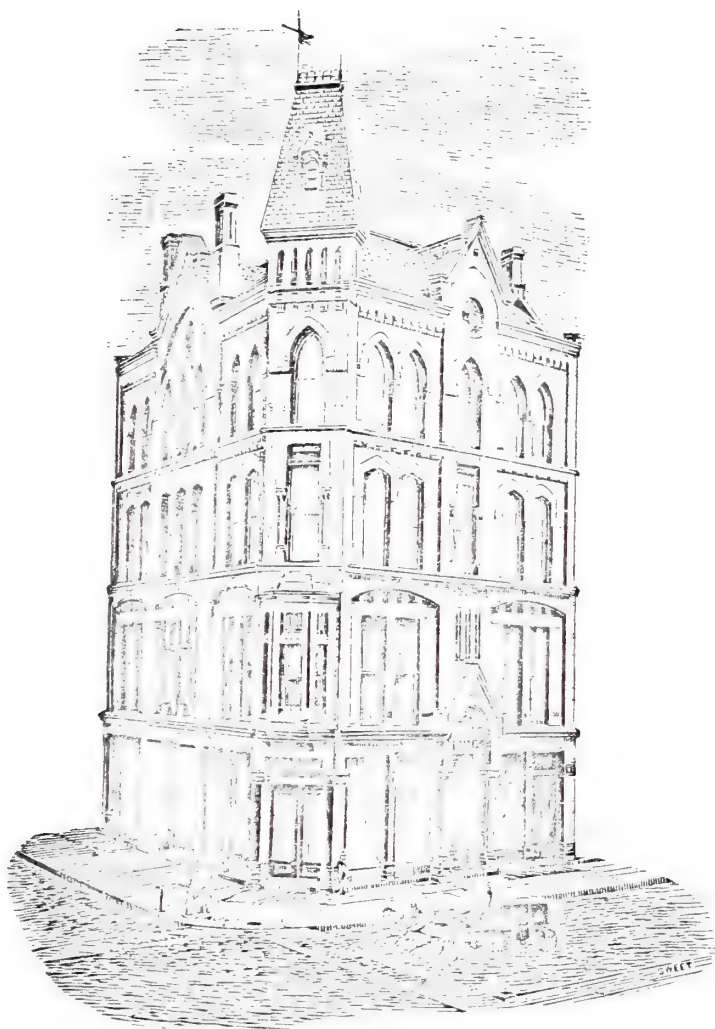
The bank has 5,000 depositors. Its investments are carefully selected under a conservative management, and its officers, to whom this trust is committed, and upon whom the responsibility of its prosperity depends, represent many of the important financial institutions and industries of the city.

The First National Bank, of Bridgeport, is located on the corner of Main and Bank streets, and was organized March 18, 1864; being a successor to the Farmer's Bank. At the organization Mr. Edmund S. Hawley was elected president, and William E. Seeley, cashier, and they still occupy the same positions. The following persons have served as directors, the terms indicated by the dates, those with the dates 1886 are still in office: Edmund S. Hawley, March, 1864, to 1886; Asahel L. Lyon, March, 1864 to 1874; Henry Beers Glover, March, 1864, to March, 1870; Salem H. Wales, March, 1864, to August, 1867; Lewis W. Burritt, March, 1864, to 1878; Allison A. Pettengill, March, 1864, to 1867; Russell Tomlinson, March, 1864, to 1885; Samuel B. Ferguson, March, 1864, to 1873; Bartlett Doten, March, 1864, to 1869; William E. Seeley, August, 1867, to 1886; Horace Nichols, August, 1867, to 1886; Thomas Lord, January, 1868, to April 30, 1870; Egbert Marsh, January, 1871, to 1877; Edward Sterling, December, 1871, to 1886; Charles K. Averill, January, 1877, to 1886; Stephen S. Booth, 1878 to 1880; Charles A. Granniss, January, 1880, to 1886; Horace L. Fairchild, January, 1880, to 1886; Alexander Hawley, January, 1881, to 1886; Enoch P. Hincks, November, 1885, to 1886.

The bank organized with a capital of \$210,000, and has accumulated a surplus of \$130,000, and has divided \$531,300, an average dividend during the twenty-two years of eleven and one-half per cent. per annum. The statement to the comptroller of the currency, March 1, 1886, shows investments drawing interest of \$920,000, and deposits of \$450,000. The present officers are: Edmund S. Hawley, President; William E. Seeley, Cashier; O. H. Brothwell, Assistant Cashier; Tracy B. Warren, General Bookkeeper; Frank R. Sammis, Deposit Bookkeeper; Robert E. Wheeler, Clerk. This bank occupies the first story of the People's Savings Bank building, on the southeast corner of Main and Bank streets.

The Pequonnock Bank of Bridgeport was incorporated in May, 1851, with a capital of \$200,000. The subscription book was opened on the first Tuesday of August, 1851, under the supervision of three commissioners, Charles Adams, John Gould and W. A. Judson. The first meeting of the stockholders was





BRIDGEPORT SAVINGS BANK. ERECTED IN 1878.





E S Hawley



Edmund Summers Hawley, son of Captain Wilson and Charity (Summers) Hawley, was born in Bridgeport, Conn., June 15th, 1813. His father was for many years member of the firm of Abijah Hawley & Co. The firm was composed of Abijah, Aaron and Wilson Hawley. They were engaged in the West India trade, and carried on the Boston Coasting, Grain and Lumber business; their store and wharf being on Water street, south of State, near the site now occupied by the Grain elevator, owned by Mr. John Hurd.

Mr. Hawley is of English descent, the family tracing their lineage back to the first settlers in Stratford, through Wilson, Ezra, Capt. Ezra, Deacon Thomas, Samuel and Joseph Hawley; the last named came from Derbyshire, England, in 1629 and died in Stratford in 1690, aged 78 years.

At the age of eighteen Mr. Hawley united with the Second Congregational Church, then under the pastoral charge of Rev. Nathaniel Hewit, D.D.

When about twenty-one years of age he removed to Catskill, N. Y., where he remained in business about six years. While there he was elected a director in the Catskill Bank, which office he held until his return to his native city in 1840. After his return he was engaged in the Dry Goods and Clothing business, and was one of the first to start the ready-made Clothing trade in Bridgeport, there being at that time but one small store of that kind in the city.

Mr. Hawley was married in 1842 by Rev. Mr. Hunter, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Bridgeport, to Lucy S. daughter of Thomas C. Wordin, and has two children, Mary W. and Charles W.

In 1849 Mr. Hawley, with his father-in-law Mr. Thomas C. Wordin, Sherwood Sterling and Monson Hawley, was extensively engaged in the California trade, and they were among the first to ship goods to that new country, which resulted in establishing the very large and successful business which has since been and is now conducted by the sons of Mr. Thomas Hawley in that great and prosperous state.

In 1852 he was appointed a Director of the Bridgeport Bank, and held that position until 1859, when he was chosen



President of the Farmers Bank (now the First National), which office he has held for twenty-eight years, and which position he still holds.

In 1851 he was elected Trustee of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, and held that position until 1870, when he was appointed Vice-President, and in 1875 was chosen President, which office he still holds, having been connected with that Bank for thirty-six years.

About the year 1859 he sold his business and devoted his time and energies to the Banking business, and has been connected with different banks, as Director, Trustee, or President, almost continuously for nearly half a century. Although not active in politics, he has always been a staunch Republican.



held at the Sterling House on Monday the 11th of August, 1851. The following were chosen directors: Hon. P. T. Barnum, Charles B. Hubbell, Samuel F. Hurd, Monson Hawley, Seth B. Jones, Thomas Ransom, Philo F. Barnum, Joseph Thompson and Samuel B. Peck. Hon. P. T. Barnum was elected President, and held the office until Nov. 23, 1855, when removing to New York, he resigned, and Mr. Charles B. Hubbell was elected to fill the vacancy and held the office until May 22, 1860, when he resigned and Mr. C. Spooner was appointed and held that office until August 15, 1865. During his administration the Pequonnock Bank was reorganized into a National organization under the title of the Pequonnock National Bank of Bridgeport. Mr. Monson Hawley was elected President August 15, 1865, and continued in office until January 12, 1869, when Mr. Charles B. Hotchkiss was appointed, and he held the office until January 15, 1885. At that time Mr. David Trubee was elected President and Mr. John L. Wessels, Vice-President. William R. Higby was the first Cashier, appointed October 16, 1851, and held the office until February 20, 1869, when he resigned and Isaac B. Prindle was appointed, and still holds the office. The bank has owned and occupied the building on the corner of Main and State streets since the autumn of 1853. While the building was being erected the business was conducted in one of the stores in the Bailey Block on State street.

The Bridgeport Savings Bank was chartered in May, 1842, and began business at a store on Water street in July of the same year.

Of the twenty-two corporate members mentioned in the charter, but three are now living, viz: Messrs. Gideon Thompson, William H. Noble and Thomas Ransom. At the time the charter was granted there were but eight Savings Banks in the State, some of them just organized, and none west of New Haven.

The Bank was afterward removed to No. 21 Wall street and in 1850 to a building upon the site now occupied, on the corner of Main and State streets. The present handsome Banking House was completed in 1873. The first Officers and Trustees of the Bank were chosen July 16th, 1842, as follows: President, Sherwood Sterling; Vice-Presidents, Josiah Hubbell and William B. Dyer; Treasurer, Smith Tweedy; Secretary, William H. Noble; Trustees, Samuel Simons, B. G. Noble, Henry Shelton, Elihu Beach, David Perry, Gideon Thompson, Schuyler Seeley, Starr Beach, W. Stillman, Mark Moore, Joshua Lord, Benjamin Wheeler, Lemuel Coleman and Thomas Ransom. The following gentlemen have been Presidents of the Institution: Sherwood Sterling, elected in 1842; Smith Tweedy, in 1843; Daniel O. Wheeler, in 1850; Lemuel Coleman, in 1851; Sherwood Sterling again, in 1864; Hervey Higby, in 1870, and E. S. Hawley in 1875. The Bank has had five Treasurers, viz: Smith Tweedy, Sherwood Sterling, George Sterling, Charles P. Porter and Alexander Hawley. The prosperity of the Bank is owing in a large degree to the prudence, integrity and good management of its former able and faithful Treasurer, Mr. George Sterling, who held the position for twenty-seven years and until his death in 1871. The total number of Deposit Accounts opened during the existence of the Bank, is 36,829. The present number of Depositors, is 8,538, and the total amount of Deposits, \$2,957,-266.01. The Bank has a surplus of \$150,000. Since its organization the Bank has not failed to pay its regular Semi-annual dividends. The dividends for the first year ending January, 1844, amounted to \$331.74, being at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum; and the dividends for the last year ending January, 1886,



amounted to \$124,673.45, 4½ per cent.; and the aggregate of dividends paid to the depositors, being \$3,807,933.05, averaging 5½ per cent. per annum for the whole period. The present Officers of the Institution are: President, Edmund S. Hawley; Vice-Presidents, Samuel C. Trubee and Luzon W. Clark; Secretary and Treasurer, Alexander Hawley; Trustees, Ezekiel Birdsey, Philip Conrad, Thomas B. DeForest, Curtis Thompson, Edward Sterling, F. B. Hawley, William R. Higby, William H. Perry, F. W. Benham and Alexander Hawley.

The Bridgeport City Bank, now the City National Bank, was organized January 17, 1854, with a capital of \$100,000, which was increased after five years to \$200,000, and nationalized with a capital of \$250,000, March 15, 1865. It now has a surplus of \$125,000, an increase of \$73,000 during the past seven years, aside from other undivided profits. The bank paid its sixtieth dividend last January and is now paying four per cent. semi-annually on a conservative basis; the market value of the stock is about \$150 per share.

This City National Bank began business in the old post office building on the north side of Bank street; removed thence to the southwest corner of Wall and Water streets, and in 1861 completed and occupied its spacious building at Nos. 17, 19 and 21 Wall street.

The following gentlemen have served as presidents of this institution: Adam P. Houston, S. F. Hurd, Ira Sherman, Sherwood Sterling, George B. Waller, and the present incumbent, Daniel N. Morgan, who has served since January, 1879.

The following have officiated as cashiers: G. H. Fairchild, E. Lacey, R. T. Clarke, J. F. Fayerweather, and T. L. Bartholomew, the last having served since December, 1880.

The present directors are: Nathaniel Wheeler, Elbert E. Hubbell, Miles Beardsley, Edwin G. Sanford, T. L. Bartholomew, D. B. Booth, George Mallory, Daniel N. Morgan, D. W. Kissam.

Hon. Daniel Nash Morgan, son of Ezra and Hannah (Nash) Morgan, is a native of Newtown, Conn., and was educated in the common school, Newtown academy, and in the Bethel high school. His ancestry runs back in every line to the early settlers in New England. The Morgan family came from Wales, England, and early established the family at New London, Conn., and Springfield, Mass. In the southern portion of Newtown, Conn., may still be seen the site of the dwelling house of Captain Zedekiah Morgan, the first of the family in this part of the country, which was in the days of the Revolution the Captain's 690 acre farm, and which is still known as the Morgan farm. His ancestral lines run back through the Sanford family of Redding, and the Nash and Camp families of Norwalk. His grand parents in the Morgan family passed away in the 84th, 90th, 96th, and 80th year of their ages. His father, Ezra Morgan, was born in Redding, February 21, 1801, but resided most of his life in





L. A. Morgan

Newtown. He married Hannah Nash, of Westport. During a busy life as a merchant for forty years, a farmer on a large scale, and president of the First National Bank of Bethel for several years, he still found time to devote to politics, among other positions being a Representative from Newtown in 1842, 1862, and 1868, and for a long time, until disqualified by age, a justice of the peace. He died June 9, 1871, in his 71st year. His widow died April 15, 1883, in her 68th year.

Daniel N. Morgan was born August 18, 1844. At the age of sixteen years he became permanently a clerk in his father's store, and was educated a merchant. Of his own volition he was placed on a salary usually given for a five year's service, namely, \$50, \$60, \$75, \$85, and \$100; and with this sum for all expenses except his board, came out at twenty-one years of age with \$50, saved from this and other sources, and with this he commenced his business life. His recreations were such as getting up with the sun in the summer, and far ahead of it in the winter, and starting for Bridgeport with a load of produce at six o'clock in the morning. The first year of his majority he conducted the business of the store as proprietor. After that for a few months he was clerk in the dry goods house of Taylor and Joyce, of Bridgeport, then for about three years, to September, 1869, was of the firm of Morgan and Booth, of Newtown Centre, when he again came to Bridgeport and was of the dry goods and carpet firm of Birdsey and Morgan. In 1876 he took a trip to Europe, and during 1877 he was connected with the firm of Morgan, Hopson and Company, wholesale grocers. In 1873 and 1874 he was a member of the Common Council of this city, a member of the Board of Education in 1877, Mayor of the city in 1880 and 1884, a member of the Legislature in 1883. In 1884 he was elected Senator for the fourteenth district for two years. In January, 1879, he was elected president of the City National Bank, a position he continues to occupy. He is also first vice-president of the Mechanic's and Farmer's Savings Bank, and for years has been a member of the board of directors and of the executive committee of the Bridgeport Hospital.

On June 10, 1868, Mr. Morgan married Medora Huginin

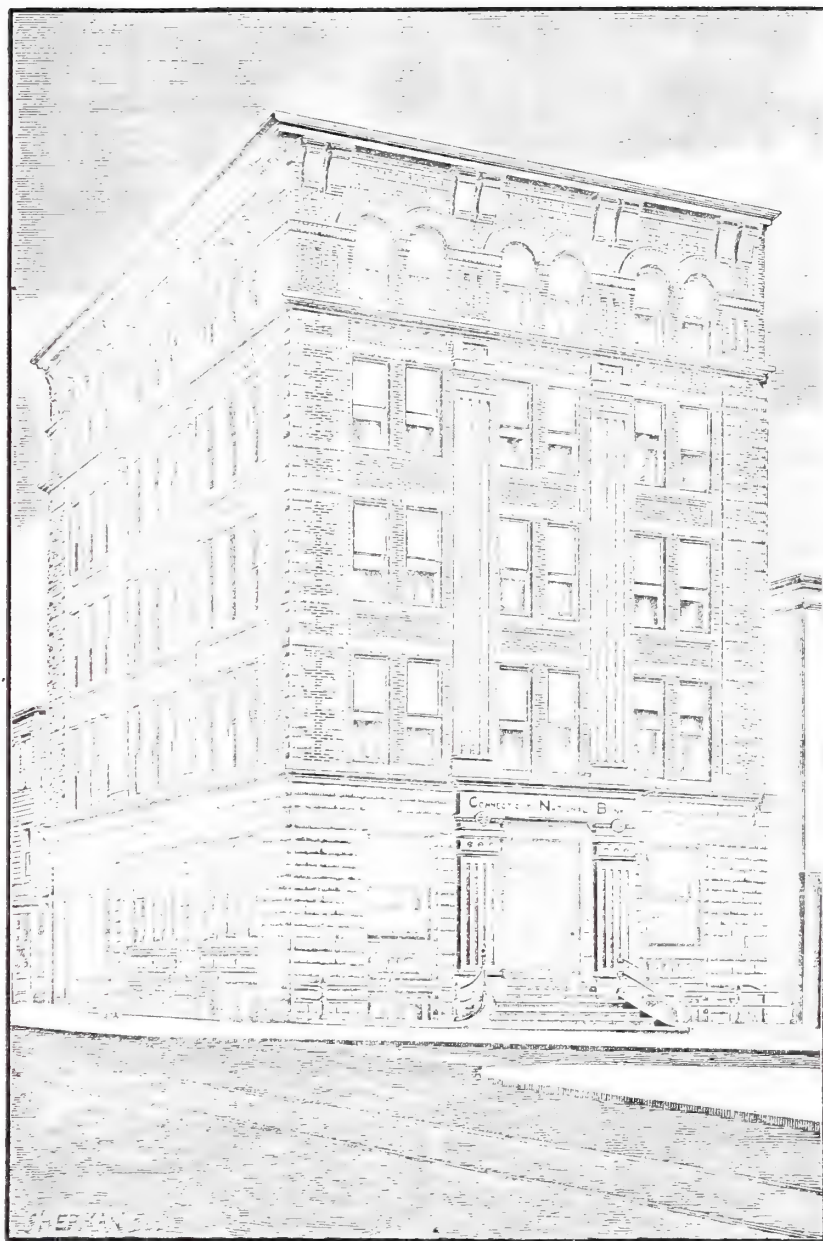


Judson, daughter of Hon. William A. Judson, of Bridgeport, but formerly of Huntington, a descendant of Colonel Agur Judson, of Revolutionary fame, and also of the first Judson family of Stratford. Their children now living are: Mary Huntington and William Judson Morgan.

The Connecticut Bank was incorporated as a State bank in May, 1831. Its original capital stock was raised by subscription, under the superintendency of five commissioners: Cyrus H. Beardsley, Daniel Sterling, Jeremiah Sturges, Jedediah Graves, and Enoch Foote. Within three months after the incorporation, as required by the statute, a branch of the bank was established at Mill River, now Southport, in the town of Fairfield. It is known to-day as the Southport National Bank. The act of incorporation required that, within twelve months from the time the bank should commence discounting, there should be paid by it to the treasurer of Yale College, for the use of said college, \$3,500, and to the treasurer of Washington—now Trinity—College, \$1,500. The act also stipulated that at the end of two years a second \$3,500 be paid to Yale, and a second \$1,500 to Washington Colleges. The bank proved a success from the start, and was able not only to meet these requirements, but to declare regular dividends, and it has continued to do so uninterruptedly ever since. In the history of the bank no such thing as a dividend skip can be found. The bank's first president was Captain Ezekiel Hubbell, who was elected in 1835; the second, Daniel Thatcher, in 1840; the third, Hon. P. C. Calhoun, in 1848, who continued in that position until 1864, when he resigned to take the presidency of the Fourth National Bank of New York City, which he held to the time of his death, in 1882. Hervey Higby was his successor, in 1864, and at his decease, in 1875, Hon. Daniel H. Sterling was chosen to fill the place. Upon his demise, in 1877, the present incumbent, Mr. Samuel W. Baldwin, was elected president. A pleasant feature of the history of the bank is the fact that during its fifty-four years of existence it has had but three cashiers; the first, Hon. Charles Foote, who held the place until his death, in 1862; John T. Shelton, who succeeded him and resigned to become the treasurer of the New York and New Haven Railroad Company, in 1868; and Mr. H. B. Drew, who succeeded him and is cashier at the present time. His association with the bank covers a period of twenty-four years. The present directors of the bank are: Samuel W. Baldwin, Samuel C. Trubee, Jarratt Morford, William D. Bishop, Henry B. Drew, William R. Higby, Marshall E. Morris, Clapp Spooner, and Henry A. Bishop.

The bank was located at first on the corner of Wall and Water streets, where it remained until the completion of their building, the site for which of sixty feet front, was purchased January 28, 1834, on the northeast corner of Main and Wall streets. In the autumn of 1885 this building was taken down and the new one, to be completed in the summer of 1886, commenced, the corner stone being laid October 30, 1885. On this occasion the box was deposited in the place prepared for it by Miss Kittie C. Drew, the little daughter of the cashier. She performed her part well, using a silver trowel, with a handle of rosewood, which she keeps as a memento of the occasion. The building is constructed of rock-faced Leete's Island red granite, with Springfield brown stone trimmings to the height of the second story window sills; above this Philadelphia pressed brick are used with





THE CONNECTICUT NATIONAL BANK, ERECTED IN 1836.

Springfield brown stone trimmings. On the fifth story moulded brick and terra cotta are used, forming a pleasing frieze. There are five full stories above the sidewalk, one half story devoted to stores below grade, and a sub-cellar and boiler-room under these stores.

The banking room is situated on the corner of Main and Wall streets, about five feet above the sidewalk level, and is provided with every modern convenience.

There are eight offices on each floor, reached from the Main street entrance, making thirty-two in all. These are easily accessible, either by stairs or elevator—the latter being constructed on the hydraulic principle and is the first passenger elevator to be used in the city.

A new material to this city has been introduced in the sidewalk, known as Granolithic, and is considered a vast improvement on anything now in use in the city.

Since the organization of the bank the following gentlemen have been connected with the institution as directors: Daniel Thatcher, Hanford Lyon, Reuben Twedy, Nathaniel Wade, Josiah Hubbell, Eli Mygatt, David Brooks, Seth B. Jones, Daniel Sterling, Enoch Foote, Lyman Hine, David Fayerweather, Samuel Stratton, Joseph Thompson, J. W. Sterling, Alexander Hamilton, Lemuel Coleman, Josiah Gorham, E. J. Staples, L. H. Russell, Eben Fairchild, P. C. Calhoun, John Gould, Charles Foote, Hervey Higby, Charles Bennett, George Keeler, Thomas Lord, Samuel C. Trubee, Daniel H. Sterling, Marcus DeForest, Samuel W. Baldwin, William D. Bishop, David F. Hollister, Jarratt Morford, Henry B. Drew, William R. Higby, Marshall E. Morris, Clapp Spooner, Henry A. Bishop.

The Mechanic's and Farmer's Savings Bank was chartered in 1871, but was not organized until in July, 1873, when the incorporators held their first meeting and elected a board of trustees: George W. Hayes, President; Andrew Burke and George Lewis, Vice-Presidents; and Lyman S. Catlin, Secretary and Treasurer. The bank was located, at first, in a small, one story building on East Washington avenue, near East Main street. This building was erected as a temporary place for the bank, by George Lewis and L. S. Catlin. The books were opened October 1, 1873, and deposits were soon made, ten cents being sufficient to open an account, and many who started with that small sum have now a respectable bank account. The bank remained in that location, with practically the same officers, until the summer of 1878. At the annual meeting of that year Mr. Hayes declined a reelection and William G. Lineburgh was elected president in his place. The bank was removed about September 1st of that year into the basement of the Connecticut Bank building, corner of Wall and Main streets, where it remained until May 1, 1880, when it was removed into the Barnum building, at 407 Main street. In July, 1883, some changes were made in the board of trustees and Mr. Andrew Burke was elected President, and D. N. Morgan and John L. Wessels, Vice-Presidents. These officers, with Mr. Catlin for Secretary and Treasurer, have been reelected each year since that time. On December 15, 1885, the bank was removed into the City Bank building in Wall street, where it remains. It has grown steadily in public confidence and favor, and is now firmly established, with assets of over \$550,000.

Additional Manufactories in Bridgeport.

George Doolittle occupies a part of the Coach Lace Company's building in John street. He is a practical engineer and inventor, spending a large proportion of his time on experimental work.

Bridgeport Elastic Web Company is located on John street and has the following officers: E. Sterling, President; F. B. Hawley, Treasurer; E. W. Marsh, Secretary; Joseph Bidmead, Superintendent; E. D. Friswell, Salesman; with \$50,000 of capital stock. The business was started by the Spring Perch Company in 1879, commencing with seven looms, but this number was soon increased, and then large additions to the buildings were made, extending them to 135 feet by 40. They now run forty looms, but have just purchased twenty-five more. They employ eighty hands, which number will soon be increased to 125.

The work requires skilled help, which has most of it been secured from England, as well as the machinery; in fact, it might be said that an English concern had been purchased and brought here. They, with four other companies, make, at present, about seven-eighths of all the webbing used in this country, but when they commenced nearly seven-eighths of all used was imported.

Besides the shoe goring, in many shades and qualities, they make some extra elastic for corsets. The yarn used is of American and Egyptian stock, and the silk, to a considerable extent, is imported. Their goods are all handled by one jobbing house at the East, and are sold in the West direct to the consumers.

Ansil H. Couch, manufacturer of a fine grade of ladies' hand and machine-sewed shoes. He was seventeen years engaged on Water street under the firm name of Couch and Wisner, and in September, 1885, commenced his present establishment as sole proprietor. He employs fifty hands, and keeps several men as salesmen on the road.

Bridgeport Patent Leather Manufacturing Company is located on Cannon street; as a previous account of this company shows. The business was commenced by Mr. S. J. Patterson in 1848, and the next year a stock company was formed, with a capital of \$20,000: Mr. S. Tomlinson, being President, and S. J. Patterson, Secretary and Treasurer. Upon the decease of Mr. Tomlinson in 1872, Mr. Patterson was elected President and Treasurer, which position he still holds, and Mr. J. E. Pond was elected Secretary, in which he continues. In 1866 the stock was increased to \$100,000, as it is at present. They manufacture patent and enameled leather, employing about fifty hands.

The Wheel and Wood Bending Company is located in John street; and the officers are: Horace Smith, President; H. W. Smith, Secretary, and E. C. Smith, Treasurer. They manufacture wheels, hubs, spokes, and woodwork generally, for carriages. The business was established as Smith and Barlow in 1854, and continued thus until 1866, when the present company was formed. They employ from thirty to fifty hands.

The H. D. Gates and Company are located in John street, corner of Broad, and manufacture all kinds of fine carriages. The business started by Mr. Gates in 1870, while he was running a livery stable on State street, and began it

because of the heavy expenses in repairing carriages. The business so increased in a short time that he sold the former interest and devoted his entire time to this. He has a large repository in California, where he spends about half of his time, and one at 184 State street in this city, keeping from 160 to 200 carriages on hand. Also in the proper season here they keep a line of sleighs. The larger portion of their work is upon orders from New York, making a specialty of the Bullshead wagon for exercising and training horses. They employ about forty hands.

The Bridgeport Electric Light Company occupy a part of the Coach Lace company's building on John street. The officers are: J. A. Gilbert, President; James English, Secretary and Treasurer; with a capital stock of \$100,000. The company was established in 1884 by J. Farrist, E. G. Burnham and other citizens. In July, 1885, a consolidation was effected with the Brush Swan company when the present officers were chosen. The Thompson Houston system is used. This sketch is a correction of the one on page 767.

The Bridgeport Boiler Works, William Lowe, proprietor. They were established by Humphrey, Watson and Company in 1866, and continued until the death of Mr. Humphrey in 1872, when Mr. Lowe bought his interest and the business was conducted under the name of Lowe and Watson until 1884, and then Mr. Lowe became the sole proprietor. He manufactures boilers for propelling steam engines; the specialties being the Lowe boiler and feed water heater.

Mr. Lowe is thoroughly educated to his business. He was indentured to the firm of Fairbanks, Bancroft and Company, of Providence, R. I., steam engine boiler makers, in 1844, and served under their successors, Bancroft, Nightingale and Company; and Corliss, Nightingale and Company. Mr. Lowe helped build the first Corliss engine put into use, which was a horizontal one.

In 1851 Mr. Lowe took the foremanship of the Woodruff and Beach Iron Works at Hartford; and in 1854 he took the foremanship of the Pacific Iron Works of Bridgeport, under Noble T. Green as superintendent, and on Mr. Green's retiring in 1855 Mr. Lowe became superintendent, and in 1872 he became proprietor in these works as above stated. In 1877 Mr. Lowe patented what is called the Lowe steam superheating boiler, and also afterwards the Lowe feed water heater, both being improvements of great value. He has more recently patented valuable improvements in boiler furnaces, and made improvements in boiler fronts, so that the smoke nuisance is abated, whatever fuel may be used.

The Bridgeport Spring Company, located at the corner of Housatonic and East Washington avenues, was established in 1864. They manufacture to order carriage springs of every description, employing about fifty hands. The officers are: Edwin Banks, President and Treasurer, and Wm. H. Rockwell, Secretary. Their building is of large dimensions, equipped with powerful engines, and all the mechanical appliances which facilitate production of the best quality and greatest quantity. The best of skilled workmen are employed, and the springs are said to be tempered by a process known only to this concern; and every spring is tested before leaving the shop.

Greenwood and Arnold, located in Cannon street, are manufacturers of tin cans of every description, making varnished cans a specialty. John H. Greenwood and Thomas Arnold, the proprietors, are practical men in their

business. They came from New York and established the copartnership in 1883, and employ about ten men, and work on contracts, for all they produce the year round.

The Bridgeport Lumber Company, located at the foot of Gold street, was organized in 1882, with these officers: C. H. Hawley, President; R. S. Neithercut, Vice-President; F. V. Hawley, Secretary and Treasurer. They are successors to C. H. Hawley. The business was started about fifty years ago by Charles Hawley, who, having several partners and changes, continued the same until his death in 1850. Then Julius Hawley, who had been in the business with his brother Charles a number of years, bought the enterprise, and, under the name of Smith and Hawley, carried on the establishment until he was succeeded by his son, C. H. Hawley, in 1876; and he continued it until May, 1882.

They manufacture moldings and house trimmings generally, and deal in all kinds of lumber.

The Granniss and Hurd Lumber Company, is located on Simond's dock. They are successors to Lyon, Curtis and Company; the mill having been established in 1846 by the latter company. In 1866 Mr. Granniss purchased a portion of the stock, but the firm name continued the same until 1882, when Mr. Lyon having died in 1874 and Mr. Curtis in 1879 the new company was organized. The present officers are: C. A. Granniss, President, and F. W. Hurd, Secretary and Treasurer, with a capital stock of \$75,000. They are dealers in lumber, and manufacture a great variety of building material and cabinet ware in all kinds of wood, employing about seventy-five men.

William F. Swords, lumber merchant and manufacturer of building material, is located on the corner of East Washington avenue and Water street. The business was started in 1852 under the name of Swords and Stilson. The latter died in 1874, and Mr. Swords continued the business. In 1879 he built the present buildings with all modern improvements. He employs from 75 to 100 hands and conducts a large business for this part of the country.

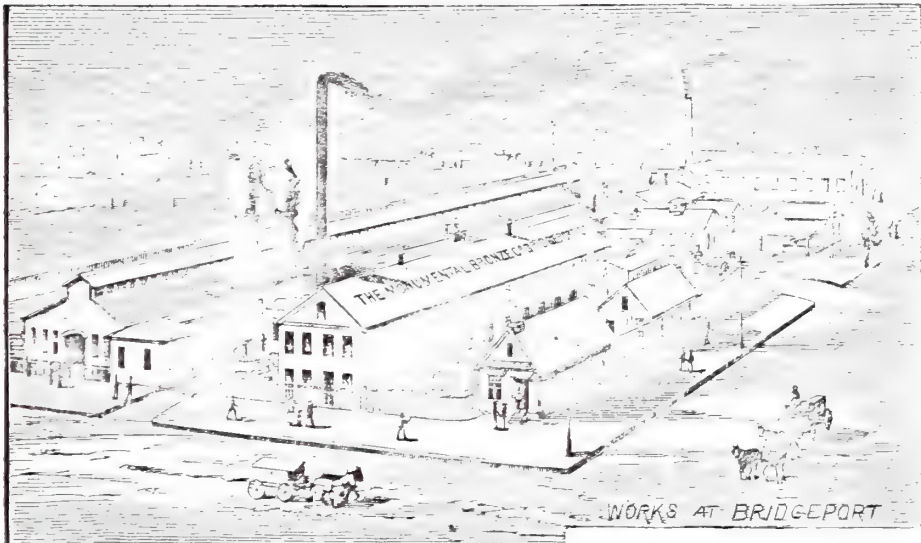
The Pequonnock Manufacturing Company, located at North Bridgeport, was conducted some years by William R. Bunnell and his brothers James F. and Thomas F. Bunnell, and it was prominent among the first industries in the city.

Wm. R. Bunnell had been for a time connected with the celebrated New York Mills, near Utica, N. Y., where he had gained much practical knowledge in the manufacture of muslins. So interested did he become in the business that he sold a fine grazing farm of 1,100 acres, stocked with 3,000 merino and Saxony sheep, in the towns of Burns and Ossian, Alleghany Co., N. Y., and in 1834 bought the interest of his uncle, Dr. Thomas Fitch, of Philadelphia, in the woolen mills at North Bridgeport. Subsequently the three Bunnell brothers greatly enlarged the establishment, added another mill, imported many English and Welch operatives, and introduced the most improved machinery of the time. They made a high grade of broadcloth, as well as cotton goods. They conducted the business with much success until under the Polk administration the repeal of the tariff brought financial ruin upon them and hundreds of other manufacturers, in 1846. Retiring to the city of Bridgeport Mr. Bunnell resided for many years



afterwards in Lafayette street at the head of Liberty street. He was well known as a man of strong religious principles, of strict integrity in all his business transactions, and of active Christian benevolence. For ten years he was a city and town assessor, and for eight years clerk of the First Congregational Church. He died November 6, 1872, at the age of sixty-six years.

The Monumental Bronze Company was organized and established in this city in the early part of the year 1874, located on corner of Barnum and Hallett streets, and has proved a successful enterprise. About the year 1868 Mr. M. A. Richardson was placed in charge of the Sherman cemetery grounds in Chautauqua county, N. Y., and during several years of service there became impressed with the need of something more durable than stone for monumental use. His studies in the matter led him first to investigate the qualities of stone china as an article for such use, but after three journeys to Trenton, N. J., and other researches in the matter, turned his attention to the practicability of using galvanized iron for this purpose. In testing this material he made at Buffalo a small monument, placing stained glass tablets upon it with an inscription, but after three years he found the stained glass, which he had been told would endure against the weather, peeled off, and hence was of no value in this kind of work. During this time his investigations, by a chance observation, were directed to the qualities of cast or molded zinc, and soon after he came to the conclusion that this was the article to meet his purposes, and with this he galvanized his monument and took it to his home in Sherman and began to solicit capital, for the purpose of producing this kind of monument. He found Mr. O. J. Willard willing to become partner in the business, and they went to Patterson, N. J., in May, 1873, where they contracted with a firm to manufacture this kind of monu-



MONUMENTAL BRONZE COMPANY.



ment. Mr. Willard made a trip into the country and obtained about thirty orders, but at this point the work ended, because the contractors failed to produce good castings. Another experiment was made in Brooklyn, N. J., to obtain the castings, but it failed. After several other failures, these persevering men built a shanty, put in a furnace, hired a molder, and at the end of three weeks produced some very good castings for their purpose, which astonished the other parties who failed, and had proclaimed that these castings could not be made. Some further efforts being made to interest capital having failed, the matter was given up as dead, and to be buried without a monument. Soon, however, a contract was made with Mr. Wm. Walter Evans of Patterson, N. J., cashier of the great locomotive works, giving him the exclusive right to manufacture for the United States and to sell the same to Mr. Richardson's and Willard's agents at a stipulated price. He proceeded with the business about a year when he sold his interest to Wilson, Parsons and Company of Bridgeport, in the early part of the year 1874. When the enterprise began in Bridgeport, it is said one man could do all the work then to be done, and the full development of the present methods had not been obtained, but by various experiments previous and afterward the system was perfected. Soon after the company came here Mr. Daniel Schuyler was admitted as a partner, and the firm of Wilson, Schuyler and Company continued until the year 1877, when Mr. A. S. Parsons became a partner and the name was known as Schuyler, Parsons, Landon and Company, and the business increased more rapidly until 1879, when it was formed into a stock company with a full paid cash capital of \$300,000, under the title of the Monumental Bronze Company. Since then the business has rapidly increased, and the company are now able to produce anything in the monumental or statuary line, however great the size. The company have established manufactories in the following places: one at Chicago, known as the American White Bronze Company; the Western White Bronze Company at Des Moines, Iowa; the St. Thomas White Bronze Monument Company, at St. Thomas, Can.; and the New Orleans White Bronze Works, at New Orleans.

The one great claim of the company in favor of their work, is durability far beyond any stone that can be obtained, and of this quality there is certainly great need as exhibited by the decaying stones in all the cemeteries and burying-places in the United States. The present officers of this company are: President, A. S. Parsons, formerly contractor in the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Company; Vice-President, E. N. Sperry, of New Haven; Treasurer, W. O. Corning, from New York; Secretary, R. E. Parsons, from Norwich, Ct.

Lieberum Brothers are cabinet makers, at 315 Water street. They commenced their business here in 1865, occupying one floor, 100 feet by 25, where their manufactory now stands, and now they use the whole building, four stories, for manufacturing, besides three stories of the building at 3 and 5 State street, each floor being 120 by 54, as salesrooms. They produce all styles of goods in their line, special attention being given to upholstering. A skillful undertaker is also employed, and careful attention is given to this branch of the business. The brothers came from Germany to this country about 1855 and resided in Birmingham, Conn., for seven years, and came thence to this city in 1861. William Lieberum has represented the First Ward, in which he resides, in the Common Council, and is a mason and odd fellow. August Lieberum, the junior brother, is also a mason and a member of the knights templar.

David Ginand, in the business of cutlery and edge tools at 43 Wall street, established this enterprise here in 1868. He occupies a floor 15 by 50, the front being the salesroom and the rear the manufactory. He produces to order any style of knives and gives special attention to repairs on all kinds of goods in his line. He is a native of Germany, but has resided in this country thirty-two years. He has been a member of the board of education for the last eight years, and is a member of the St. John's masonic lodge.

The Smith and Egge Manufacturing Company is located at 188 Lafayette street and was organized in the spring of 1874 and incorporated in September, 1877, with the same officers as at present, namely, Friend W. Smith, President, and W. H. Day, Secretary and Treasurer.

They employ from one to two hundred men, who are under the superintendency of Mr. Frederick Egge. There is probably no concern in this city so well and favorably known to the United States Government as this establishment. They have for several years past manufactured all the post office mail locks in use in the United States, and in all probability will supply them for several years to come. They also originated the system of carrying the mail key attached to the person of the carrier or route agent by a length of chain, and also in like manner fastening it to the mailing table in every post office in the country. For this use they have supplied the government with over 300,000 feet of chain, and the loss of keys is now very seldom reported. They have also supplied Mexico, Hayti, Chili, and St. Domingo with mail locks and keys. Since every lock bears on its face the imprint, "Manufactured by the Smith & Egge Co.," they have given a wide-spread fame to Bridgeport, and the city has doubtless realized material advantage from the celebrity. In addition to mail locks and keys they have supplied the government with all the postal punches for use in connection with the postal notes, and each of these also bears the name of Bridgeport, Conn. They have also furnished the Post Office Department with all their cord fasteners and label cases, numbering many hundred thousand. They have also had large dealings with the Treasury and Navy Departments of the government.

For the general trade they manufacture a great variety of articles, prominent among them are the giant padlock, giant drill check, and giant metal sash chains. The giant metal sash chain is a noticeable article. About eight years ago they conceived the idea of making a chain that could be sold at a popular price as a substitute for cord for hanging weights to windows, and they filed out the first samples by hand and were the originators of the chain represented in the accompanying cut. It has been adopted by the United States for their public buildings



and is in general use in all parts of the country. To produce it cheap enough and fast enough to meet the demand, Mr. Frederick Egge invented a machine, into which the metal being fed, the links are cut out, put together, shaped, and the completed chain drawn out under a strain that tests its tensile strength sufficiently to discover any flaw in the metal, and at the rate of five feet a minute, without any human hand touching it. It is a marvel of ingenuity and does the work of several men. The firm keep several of these machines running continuously. They are



also sole proprietors of the metal from which the chain is made, it being known in the market as the giant metal, and is said to be superior to any other for the purpose. Besides this and other chains they make special goods for large consumers, and for years have manufactured in this line sewing machine hardware for the Singer Machine Company, Wheeler and Wilson, Domestic, Estey Organ, and other companies. They have also for several years made the universal button hole attachment, and have lately put on the market a family button hole attachment that is capable of being applied to all the leading machines, enabling the sewing machine to do what it has not heretofore done successfully, that is, to make the button holes for the family without very much additional expense. They have also much valuable and special machinery made by and for themselves, not found in any other establishments in this or any country, and they employ many highly skilled mechanics. The company have a representative in New York and in Chicago, but their business is mainly conducted through their office in this city, and both the president, secretary and treasurer give it their constant and personal attention. The original firm was composed of Mr. Friend W. Smith and Mr. Frederick Egge. Mr. Smith is well known as having been postmaster of Bridgeport eight years, during both terms of President Lincoln's administration. Mr. Egge has won for himself the reputation of being one of the best and most ingenious mechanics in the country. Mr. Warner H. Day, who came into the concern, bringing additional capital, in 1877, has twice been, and is its secretary and treasurer. He is well known in Bridgeport and in New York City, where he was engaged in the wholesale hardware trade for many years.

Joseph Keller and Company, manufacturers of square and upright pianos, are located in the building of the coach lace company. They established their business here in 1884, employing fifteen hands and increasing them as they were able to turn their own resources, being content with the daily production of one piano until the natural increase of their business permitted them to further enlarge their facilities. They make only one grade of instrument, the difference being only in the style of the case. Already their instrument is being acknowledged as most superior, and besides four awards of minor importance they received the first premium at the New York State fair in 1885.

Mr. Keller's reputation as a practical musician and piano maker is the very best, he being one of a family including the father and seven brothers, all either manufacturing or employed in manufactories of pianos. He was in New York City thirty years, commencing as an apprentice at the age of twelve years, and worked in some of the leading manufactories until he established himself in Bridgeport as above stated. He was also educated as a pianist and organist, which enables him to study and perfect the tone of his instruments. Every part of an instrument he has made hundreds of times with his own hands, which has qualified him for the personal inspection he gives to the smallest details of his business.

The company have met with success far beyond their most sanguine expectations, so much so that their orders are greater than they can fill for months to come. Although they have spacious rooms, yet enlargement has become necessary and is soon to be secured. All this is owing to the manner of constructing their instruments and the effect secured. All the wood parts of their instruments are double, cross-grain veneered, both within and without, the material thoroughly kiln-dried, and while able to resist any atmospheric changes the instruments



are novels of taste and beauty; while possessing a beautiful finish, nothing in the whole work is neglected, but manufactured by skillful workmen from the best material to be found, the principal aim being to make a first-class piano in every respect with special attention to its durability. These pianos unite every advantage produced, containing every valuable improvement science has suggested, including a number of their own inventions. In each piano the plank, or pin-block, is composed of five thicknesses of maple wood, the grain running in different directions, through that the turning-pin is held all round by endwood, the advantage being that changes of temperature do not swell or contract. This departure tends to keep the instrument in tune longer than by the ordinary method,—a great point in piano economy,—and by this system of crossing the grain of the wood all danger or liability of splitting the rest plank is removed.

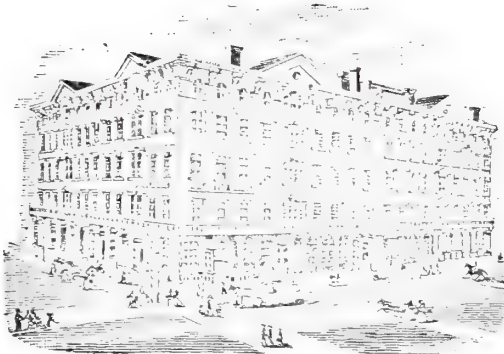
Their tone combines the greatest possible volume and richness, together with a beautiful and refined sweetness and purity, and remarkable for its extraordinary prolongation and singing quality, as well as perfect evenness throughout the entire scale; touch of the greatest lightness, elasticity, and pliancy, enabling the performer to control the instrument perfectly, and to vary the tone from the softest whisper to the most powerful *fortissimo*.

Hincks and Johnson, manufacturers of fine heavy carriages, such as coaches, landaus, broughams, coupés, hansom cabs, established their business on Broad street in May, 1879, as successors to Wood Brothers, who, with Stephen and Russell Tomlinson, gained a well deserved reputation during seventeen years of successful labors in the business. Mr. David Wood was among the first to commence a manufactory of heavy carriages in this country, beginning in 1823, under the firm name of Tomlinson, Wood and Company. Mr. Hincks is a native of this city, and Mr. Johnson was engaged in New York for a term of years before starting the business here. They occupy the original edifice built in 1831, with such additions as have been made from time to time, and now cover over two acres of ground floor, giving employment to 100 or 150 hands. They turn out complete about 200 of the larger carriages or coaches yearly, and of other styles a greater number, being, in fact, the largest establishment of the kind in New England and the second in this country. The departments for construction in wood and iron work each in itself would make a large business. They were the first to introduce recently the London hansom cabs, making some changes from the English design, and have already sold a large number of them in the most populous cities of the country. All their business is transacted at the office of their manufactory.

The White Manufacturing Company is located at 95 Cannon street, and produce coach lamps, carriage mountings and hardware. The officers are: George H. Johnson, President; William B. Hincks, Treasurer; H. S. Wilmot, Secretary; Thomas Boudren, Superintendent.

This enterprise was started in 1832 by Rippen and Sturges, who were succeeded by George Rippen, and he was succeeded by White and Bradley, who in turn were succeeded by Thomas P. White and Company. This firm was merged into the present White Manufacturing Company, which was organized as a joint stock company in 1861, with a capital of \$40,000. They employ sixty hands in the manufacture of the finest grade of carriage lamps and mountings, and hearse trimmings. They have the reputation of making only the best class of goods, which are sold in every State in the Union, and also in Mexico and Cuba.





THE ATLANTIC HOUSE AT BRIDGEPORT.

The Atlantic House is located on the corner of Fairfield avenue and Water street, and was erected about 1861, but has been enlarged since that time. It stands across the street from the New York and New Haven railroad depot, and is a first class hotel. The building, although plain in style, is an ornament to that part of the city.

Mr. Peter Foland, the proprietor, is a native of Schoharie county, N. Y., where he married Miss Annie Eliza Kilmore. He resided in Albany about thirty years, where he kept the Dunlap and the Mansion Houses on Broadway, and also the Foland House on Washington avenue, where the State House now stands. In Albany he served a term as alderman. He left Albany and was proprietor, for a time, of the Nelson House at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and from that place came to Bridgeport in 1880, where he has earned a high and honorable reputation as proprietor of the Atlantic House and as a public citizen. Many of the best class of citizens reside in his house. He is efficiently assisted by his son, Mr. Worthington Foland, who has always resided with his father. His daughter, Ida, married Mr. Holland H. Terriff, of Albany, and they reside with Mr. Foland.



THE ELM HOUSE AT BRIDGEPORT.





Peter Foland

The Elm House is located at 36 John street, it having been a private dwelling until within a few years. In 1884 it was enlarged and became decidedly in public favor, and has been very prosperous since. It is conducted as a temperance house.

Mr. J. R. Rockfeller, the proprietor, is a native of New York State, a member of the societies of odd fellows, royal arcanum and knights of pythias, and is having success in this enterprise.

Recreation Hall is located at Main street; was erected by Hon. P. T. Barnum for the purposes of recreation and amusement. It is 200 feet by 80, two stories, built with brick, the front being Philadelphia brick with terra cotta finish, ornamented with griffins and statuary. The arrangements in the interior of the building are very complete on a large scale. Mr. H. G. Husted is the originator of plan and equipments, and is the lessee of the building.

The Balloon Ascension of September 6, 1852, was made at Bridgeport, by the largest balloon ever used in the United States. It was made of French flag silk, 100 feet in height, and 72 in diameter, and held 3500 feet of gas, half of it being supplied by the Bridgeport Gas Company, and the rest manufactured in a tank by Monseieur Petin. The balloon was one of three of the same size and workmanship, and made for an aerial trip across the Atlantic ocean, but failed to accomplish that journey. It ascended to an altitude of 23,500 feet, continued its aerial journey one hour and a half when it landed in the ocean, off the village of Bridgehampton, L. I., about six miles out. The persons who ascended in it, were: Monseieur Petin, aeronaut; Gustave Reynaud, machinist; J. W. Dufour, interpreter; and Mr. Seetch, a school teacher of East Bridgeport. After battling with the waves for two hours, they were rescued by a life saving crew, thus narrowly escaping a watery grave, and returned to Bridgeport four days from the time they made the ascension. The cost of this balloon was \$3500, and it was a total loss. Monseieur Petin returned to Paris and engaged in ballooning in the interest of the French government. Gustave Reynaud remained in Bridgeport for a time but died while on a visit to his native country. The only survivor of the party is J. W. Dufour who resides now in Stratford, Conn. But few old Bridgeporters but that remember Petin's signal when beginning his most grand ascension on that occasion; "Six inches let go." "Six inches let go." Mr. Dufour says that while thousands of feet high in the air they could distinctly see the fish in the water of the Sound.

The Newspapers of Bridgeport.

The Republican Farmer was started as a weekly newspaper in 1790 at Danbury, under the name of the Farmer's Miscellany. After various fortunes and absorbing one or two rivals it was removed to Bridgeport in 1810, by Stiles Nichols; and has been consecutively published here since by Stiles Nichols, Stiles Nichols and Son, Pomeroy and Nichols, William S. Pomeroy, Pomeroy and Morse, W. S. Pomeroy again, Pomeroy, Gould and Company, and Gould and Stiles, the present owners. The "Daily Farmer" was started January 1, 1750, by W. S. Pomeroy, and has been published since that date except for about a month



in the summer of 1861, when the office was mobbed and sacked for alleged opposition to the civil war. The present proprietors became sole owners in 1870. It has always been a staunch Democratic paper, supporting Jefferson and his successors, and Jackson and all the later Democratic administrations; has steadily grown with the increase of the population of the town and county, and is a wide-awake newspaper.

The American Telegraph was started here by Lazarus Beach, a printer, bookseller and stationer, in 1795. It was issued weekly from the office at the corner of Wall and Water streets, opposite the old Washington Hotel.

The Bridgeport Herald, a weekly paper, was commenced about the year 1805 by Samuel Mallory. Copies of it are now extremely scarce, much more so than those of its predecessor, the "Telegraph," of which quite a number have been preserved.

The Bridgeport Advertiser was started in 1806, by Hezekiah Ripley, and published weekly for several years at the rate of one dollar and fifty cents per annum.

The Connecticut Courier was commenced in 1810, by Nathaniel L. Skinner, and continued by him for upwards of a dozen years.

The Connecticut Patriot was commenced in 1826, by L. Bradley and Company, at their office on the corner of Main and State streets, opposite the Steamboat Hotel, afterwards the Franklin House.

The Spirit of the Times was published and edited by George W. Smith, Jr., at the corner of State and Water streets, which met with considerable success. This paper was started in 1831, when public opinion ran high on Masonry, soon after the disappearance of the unfortunate Morgan. It was devoted to the cause of anti-Masonry, and for a while had a circulation of eight hundred copies. It was afterwards sold to John Swaine.

The Bridgeport Chronicle was first published September 9, 1848, by B. H. Munson, at the corner of State and Water streets. It was issued weekly, at one dollar per annum, and enjoyed but a brief existence.

The First Bridgeport Leader suspended after fifteen numbers. It was edited by T. M. Clarke, subsequently editor of the Winsted "Herald," and published by the Bridgeport Printing Company. The date upon its first number is March 25, 1854.

The newspapers published in Bridgeport at the present time are the "Farmer," Democratic; the "Standard," Republican; the "Morning News," Independent; the "Evening Post," and the "Sun."

The Republican Standard was commenced in the year 1839, by A. A. Pettengill, who was both editor and proprietor. He purchased of Edmund Fanton at that time the "Bridgeport Republican," a weekly paper commenced by Mr. Fanton in 1830. In the spring of 1848, Julius S. Hanover was admitted to an interest in the business. In 1853 a tri-weekly edition was begun, followed in 1854 by the publication of a daily. In September, 1863, Mr. John D. Candee, formerly of New Haven, became the successor of the firm of Pettengill and



Hanover, and on January 1, 1867, the Standard Association was organized, with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, which has since been largely increased. At the time of the organization Mr. Candee was President of the association and J. W. Knowlton Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Knowlton was also business manager for about ten years. At the present time the paper is edited by Messrs. John D. Candee and George C. Waldo, the business management being under the direction of Mr. Alexander Wheeler. It has also a telegraphic news editor, Mr. S. O. Canfield, a city editor, Mr. F. C. Smith, and three reporters, Messrs. Frank A. Wood, F. H. Nash and Frank W. Boland. The job department is under the charge of Mr. Patrick Wade, Jr., and Mr. George B. Whitney is foreman of the newspaper composing department. Wm. H. Parrott is bookkeeper and accountant; and the entire force numbers from twenty-five to thirty men. Large daily and weekly editions are published and the paper has a wide circulation and influence. It has always been decidedly republican in politics. The fine brick building on the corner of Fairfield avenue and Middle street, owned and occupied by the Standard Association, was erected in 1870, at a cost of over \$30,000.

John Dutton Candee, son of Benjamin and Almira C. (Dutton) Candee, was born in Pompey, Onondaga county, N. Y., June 12, 1819. His parents were natives of Oxford, Connecticut. He had four sisters and one brother. His ancestors in both lines were descendants from the earliest settlers in the country who were of pure English blood, except one on the paternal side who came from France and settled in England.

Mr. Candee's parents removed from Pompey to Connecticut about 1825, and the following year his father died at Cheshire, leaving a widow, and six children from six weeks to fifteen years of age, without property. His mother removed to New Haven, where by great skill and hard labor she succeeded in maintaining her family, but her struggles left a vivid impression on the mind of her son.

When nine years of age young Candee walked to Oxford to work on a farm with his great-uncle, Capt. Job Candee, and since that day he has supported himself without aid from any friend or relative. He regards the three years spent on that farm as among the most valuable of his life. Captain Candee was a soldier in the Revolution who never tired of telling stories of that war, and from these the boy imbibed those sentiments of patriotism which fire his spirit, and sometimes blaze out in the Bridgeport "Standard." When about ten years of age he first learned something of the institution

of slavery, and he so instinctively felt the supreme wrong of that institution that he has ever been an intense opponent of all oppression and slavery all over the world.

When thirteen years of age he engaged in a printing office as a "roller boy" and continued at that trade ten years, and thereby mastered every detail of the business.

Thirsting for knowledge and living in sight of Yale College he became imbued with a strong desire to go through that institution, and although without means he accomplished his object and was graduated in 1847. Still he went on, and spent the next two years in the Yale Law School, under the tuition of Governors Bissell and Dutton. After graduating he went to Iowa to practice his profession, but returned the following year to New Haven and opened a law office. For five years he was the prosecuting attorney or grand juror of that town, and it fell to his lot to enforce the so-called Maine law, which he did successfully. After that he followed his profession for seven years in New Haven, being the city attorney for two years. While the profession of law secured satisfactory remuneration, yet by his peculiar sensitiveness and personal tastes he did not like it, and hence accepted the editorial department of the New Haven "Journal and Courier" for three months, and, finding that occupation congenial he purchased a two-thirds interest in the Bridgeport daily and weekly "Standard," and entered upon his new duties September 12, 1863.

On the 29th of October following, he married Miss Sarah Bryant Smith, daughter of the Rev. Samuel F. Smith, D.D., of Newton Centre, Mass. They have had three daughters, of whom two, Almira Louise and Hattie Kate are living.

When Mr. Candee assumed control of the "Standard" it was a small paper and in a very precarious condition, but it soon began to grow, and this prosperity has continued so that the paper has been enlarged several times. For a time he did all the editorial work himself, but gradually was able to add one assistant after another until it requires the work of six men to conduct it editorially, while the business department, which formerly afforded but light work for one man, now requires four, and the job department has correspond-



ingly increased. Determining to avoid certain errors of journalism, and to pursue a line of general progress for the public good, his paper has become a great success. This prosperity Mr. Candee does not attribute wholly to himself but much to his associates, with whom he has maintained very pleasant relations. Mr. George C. Waldo, associate editor, has been on the "Standard" for nineteen years; Mr. Alexander Wheeler, the business manager, seventeen years, and the type setters on an average twenty years. The public career of the paper for nearly twenty-three years renders useless any effort to describe its principles, or those of its chief editor, and his associates. The prosperity of the paper in a commonly moral and intelligent community reveals its high moral tone and public spirit. In politics Mr. Candee is Republican, solely from a conviction that the principles of that party are right. He thoroughly believes in universal education and works with perseverance for that end and for public progress in all directions. He has asked for no office and has held none in Bridgeport except three years in the Common Council, but he accepted the nomination for Lieut.-Governor in 1882, and was defeated.

In person he is six feet and one inch in height, weighs about 260 pounds, stands erect, and moves with dignity and self-possession; and in the most literal meaning as to his acquirements, is a self-made man.

George Curtis Waldo was born in Lynn, Mass., in 1837, and is the eldest son of the Rev. J. C. Waldo, a prominent Universalist clergyman, now for many years retired at New London, Conn. Deacon Cornelius Waldo was the first of the name to come to this country (1654), and from him the entire family with all its branches has sprung. The family is of ancient date, Deacon Cornelius tracing his descent back to Thomas, brother of Peter Waldo, founder of the Waldenses (1170). On his mother's side Mr. Waldo is related to the old Huguenot family of Ballou, his mother being Elmina, daughter of the Rev. Hosea Ballou of Boston, and cousin of Eliza Ballou the mother of James A. Garfield. Mr. Waldo was graduated at Tufts College, Mass., in 1860, and studied law in the office of the Hon. Andrew C. Lippitt of New Lon-



don, Conn., with T. M. Waller. Both he and Gov. Waller enlisted as privates in the first company raised in New London for the Civil War, and served through the campaign of 1861. After his discharge from the army, his health being poor, Mr. Waldo abandoned the study of the law and entered more active business in New London and Bridgeport from the years 1862 to 1867, and, in the latter year he engaged as city editor of the Bridgeport "Daily Standard." He occupied this position for two years and in 1869 he bought the interest of Major L. N. Middlebrook in that journal and became associate editor of the paper with the Hon. John D. Candee, a position which he has occupied ever since. In 1874 he married at New Orleans, Annie, daughter of Major Frederick Frye, formerly of Bridgeport, and their children are Selden Connor, Rosalie Hillman and Maturin Ballou. For eight years Mr. Waldo has been a member of the vestry of Christ Episcopal Church Parish and for four years was its Junior Warden. He was, with the Rev. Dr. H. N. Powers, one of the founders of the Scientific Society and for five years its secretary. He was among the founders of the Historical Society and is one of its Vice-Presidents. For five years he was a member of the Board of Education, was a member of the Building Committees of the Board and the Town in the construction of the New High School, and for two years was chairman of the Committee on Schools. He has never sought political office, the duties of his business being all that he has had time to undertake. He was the first President of the old Eclectic Club, is one of the vice-presidents of the Sea Side Club, is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Army and Navy Club of Connecticut, was a charter member of the first lodge of the Knights of Pythias, and has belonged to other similar organizations. He is a connoisseur in art and literature, has many works of art and a fine miscellaneous library. In 1882 he built the residence No. 85 Golden Hill, where he now resides.

The Evening Post.—Strangers who visit the busy establishments of the "Evening Post" are often surprised to hear old citizens who are conducting visitors through it say: "Now show us the press you first started with." And when, in response, a forlorn and battered three-dollar card-press is produced, they feel that the story of the "Post" is indeed one of small beginnings. Starting with this small press, George W. Hills, the founder of the "Evening Post," worked his

way on until, though still a boy, he carried on a small but thriving job printing business in a little frame building at 304 East Main street. Several business men of East Bridgeport, who had been his earliest patrons, used to urge him, half-jestingly, to issue a daily one-cent paper. February 7th, 1883, saw the first number of the "Post," a neatly printed four-column sheet, 15x22, aptly described by a big



contemporary as "handkerchief size." It received a hearty welcome from the public, and in May, 1883, it was enlarged to 5 columns. September, of the same year saw its expansion to six columns, and in July, 1884, it attained its present dimensions, being now a handsomely-printed 7-column daily, exactly the same size as the "New York Sun." From the first it found cordial supporters among wealthy and influential advertisers, who were quick to perceive the advantages of a penny paper with its wide circulation among people who usually spend their money in their own city. The profits of the paper were steadily devoted to its improvement, and Hoe presses and other machinery of the best description speedily took the place of the first primitive contrivances. In January, 1885, George W. Hills associated with him his brother Henry M. Hills, thus forming the present firm of Hills Brothers. In September, 1885, the "Post" migrated from the little frame building which it had long outgrown, to the stately brick block erected on Middle street, by A. L. Winton, Esq. Here increased prosperity has followed it. Its sworn circulation is 4,000 daily, and it has an immense advertising patronage. Visitors receive a hearty welcome, and it is one of the sights of Bridgeport to see the "Post" printed and delivered to its waiting army of boys. Politically the "Post" is independent, and always ready to lend its support to "honest men and honest measures."



The Morning News, as a daily paper, was first published on September 7, 1874, by Major Henry M. Hoyt, L. C. Prindle and John Beardsley. The office was under the Atlantic House from which it was issued just thirty days and discontinued. It had been fairly patronized, but it neither made nor lost a dollar. On October 27, 1879, the "News" was started again by Major Hoyt, who conducted it with the assistance of A. W. French as city editor, and T. W. Wood as night editor, until February 1, 1885, when it was purchased by Rufus A. Lyon and L. C. Prindle. This firm continued until December 9, 1885, when by mutual consent Mr. Prindle purchased Mr. Lyon's interest, and became proprietor and editor, and thus it continues with good success. On December 27, 1885, Arthur W. French became the night editor.

The Bridgeport Sun, originally known as the "Budget," was established in 1867, by William H. May, at 21 Wall street. It is democratic in its principles and independent in character, and is now published in Hawes' Opera House Block, on Fairfield avenue, every Saturday morning.

W. H. May, the editor of the "Sun," was the editor of the "Boneville Trumpet," which acquired considerable fame as a comical monthly soon after the war, and displayed at its "mast-head" the motto:

"Independent, like it or lump it,
We'll tell the Truth in the BONEVILLE TRUMPET."

During a period of fourteen months in Rebel prisons pens, at Camp Ford, Tyler, Texas, he printed with a pen in imitation of types, a paper called "THE OLD FLAG," which was lithographed after his exchange and fac-simile copies furnished to old ex-prisoners. This is the only instance in the war of '61-5 when a newspaper was ever successfully published by prisoners in the hands of the enemy.

*The First Universalist Society*⁵ was organized in April, 1844, and they built their first church edifice the following summer on Cannon street, the Rev. Samuel B. Britain, formerly an Episcopal clergyman, being their minister. The church was organized January 12, 1845, with the following members: Ammon Williams, Charles M. Marvin, Richard Thompson, William Gould, Oliva Williams, Lucy A. Landon, Mary A. Davis, Maria Thompson, Thomas Lewis, S. S. Lyon, Sarah W. Lyon, Elizabeth C. Britain, Henry Edwards, Amanda Wells, Harvey K. Knight, Samantha Mettler, Francis Marshall, Amy Edwards, Lewis B. Edwards, Aloa Briggs, Susan Robinson, Ann E. Pollard and F. P. Ambler.

Previous to the organization of the society Rev. Menzies Raynor and Rev. Forbyce Hitchcock preached here as missionaries. Mr. Britain left about 1846, and the Rev. F. S. Fletcher succeeded him, remaining two years. The Rev. Hosea Ballou preached here a number of times before 1850. The Rev. Moses Ballou was settled here September 1, 1848, and remained six years. The church edifice was burned in May, 1850, and the present one built on Fairfield avenue, near Broad street, that year. The Rev. Edwin C. Boll was ordained pastor here July 30, 1855, and remained about one year. He was educated in Trinity College in Hartford. The Rev. Thomas Lathrop was settled pastor here several years, beginning in 1861. The next pastor was the Rev. Selden Gilbert, commencing in

⁵ Received too late for insertion in its proper connection, on page 214.



May, 1868, who remained about one year. In 1869, Miss Olympia Brown, afterwards Mrs. Olympia Willis, became the pastor of this church, and labored with success until in 1875 when she resigned, and the present pastor, the Rev. John Lyon succeeded her.

The addition to the church edifice, securing a comfortable Sunday school room and parlor, was built in 1880, and the church debt was paid in spring of 1886, by the special and persistent labors, of the pastor.

Rev. John Lyon, the present pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, was born in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, December 31, 1844. He received his early education in the excellent national schools of Glasgow, and when about fourteen years of age became attached to the Bridgeton public school as a pupil teacher, remaining there some four years, attending at the same time the Glasgow University, which he entered in his sixteenth year. Soon after entering the university he opened a private school, which was successful during the four years he directed it.

Determining to come to this country he left Glasgow, and after a stormy passage of fifteen days arrived in New York on Washington's birthday in 1867. Proceeding West he taught school in Michigan for nearly three years, and married in Detroit, Carrie C., youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Barnum, formerly a citizen of Bridgeport, Conn. Removing to Nebraska, he followed teaching, at the same time studying for the ministry. On January 22, 1871, he was admitted to Orders in the Episcopal Church, and on April 6, 1873, ordained to the priesthood. Withdrawing from the ministry of the Episcopal Church he received in July and August, 1874, calls from the Liberal Churches in Bolton and Ware, Mass. He accepted the latter and was duly installed. On November 16, 1876, he received a unanimous call to the First Universalist parish of Bridgeport, and accepting it, entered upon the duties of pastor on the first Sunday in December of the same year, now nearly ten years since. His labors have been very earnest, steady and influential, especially in regard to the great questions of moral reform of the present day. In 1882 he visited Scotland, to secure rest and revive old memories. In 1886 he received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from Tufts College, Mass.

Besides writing considerably for public journals both



essays and sermons, he has published "What I Believe Concerning Endless Punishment," and the reply to it by the Rev. R. G. S. McNeille, "What I Believe Concerning Endless Punishment," with "Replies thereto by the Rev. John Lyon," 82 pages, 12mo. He has also nearly ready for the press, "Vergilia, a Tale of the Primitive Church," 300 pages, 12mo.

Rev. Edwin Johnson,⁶ the seventh pastor of the Second Congregational Church, was born in Plymouth, Ct., December 1, 1826, and died in Morrisania, New York City, December 26, 1883, aged 57 years. Mr. Johnson was graduated at Yale College in 1846, being the class poet, and after two years' study at Union Theological Seminary, New York, graduated there in 1850. He married Miss Sarah K., daughter of James and Lucy Bartlett of Portsmouth, N. H., who with three daughters survives him.

He was acting pastor at Milford, Conn., one year during 1850 to 1851; was ordained pastor of the Congregational Church at Jacksonville, Ill., beginning June 6, 1851, where he remained about seven years; was installed pastor of the Bowdoin street Church, Boston, Mass., June 29, 1859. On October 16, 1861, he commenced labors at the Hammond street Church, Bangor, Me., where he remained until late in the year 1865. He was pastor of the Congregational Church in Baltimore, Md., from 1867 to 1869, and was installed pastor of the Second Congregational Church in Bridgeport, Conn., November 8, 1870, and continued its pastor until November 2, 1876. After this he preached regularly, until his death, in the Congregational Church at Morrisania, N. Y., where he had charge of a school for young ladies.

During his successful labors with the Second Church in Bridgeport, there were 202 persons added to the membership—107 on profession of faith and 95 by letter, and therefore left the church in a good state of prosperity. He was a ready writer, and contributed articles to religious press and various magazines, and in 1873 published the "Mouth of Gold," a series of dramatic sketches illustrating the life and times of Chrysostom.

⁶ See page 182.



Upon receiving the intelligence of his decease the Second Congregational Church, passed the following:

"WHEREAS, the sad intelligence was received yesterday of the death of Rev. Edwin Johnson, formerly pastor of this church, therefore

"*Resolved*, That we have heard with sincere sorrow of this affliction which has befallen his family, and that we take this means of conveying to them our sympathy, and assuring them that their grief is also ours, and that we share with them the sad feelings of loss and bereavement which they now suffer.

"*Resolved*, That this church desire to place once more on record its high esteem for Rev. Mr. Johnson as a consistent and eminently faithful pastor, and as a sincere and unselfish friend whose loss we deeply lament.

"*Resolved*, That as an expression of our feeling, a committee be appointed to attend the funeral in our behalf, and convey these assurances to his sorrow stricken family; the following persons being the committee: Rev. R. G. S. McNeille, the pastor, Deacons Edward Sterling, Edward W. Marsh and Thomas Calef; and Messrs. S. W. Baldwin, L. D. Sanford, M. Neville and E. A. Lewis.

Deacon Blakeslee, of this church, was chosen February 3, 1874.

Rev. Robert G. S. McNeille was born in the city of Philadelphia, April 1, 1841, and was the second son of Perry R. McNeille, a merchant of that city, and of Hannah (Shepherdson) McNeille. His early education was obtained principally in the public schools of the city and he graduated at eighteen from the high school with the degree of A.B. He subsequently graduated at Yale College in the class of 1863, and after a course of law in the office of G. M. Wharton, Esq., and in the University of Pennsylvania, he followed for two years the practice of that profession. He then graduated from the Yale Theological Seminary in New Haven and after a term of travel in Europe became, in 1870, the first pastor of the East Church, now the Humphrey Street Church, which he had founded while in the seminary.



He accepted a call to the Porter Church, in Brockton, in 1872, and subsequently became pastor of the South Congregational Church in Bridgeport in December, 1877.

St. John's Episcopal Church closed on page 627 with a sketch of the Rev. Dr. Maxcy's labors in it. Since the writing of that article work has been commenced on the new chapel at the north end of the church. This chapel will be 86 by 67 feet, one story high and basement. The cost is estimated at \$30,000, and the expense is defrayed by the legacy of the late Catharine A. Pettengill, the material being the same as the church edifice—blue stone. The chapel will contain a lecture room, two parlors, library, kitchen, pastor's study, and retiring rooms. The building will be called the "Burroughs Memorial Chapel."

The Rev. Edgar A. Enos, of Towanda, Pa., became rector of this church in December, 1885.

*Private Schools*⁷ were well sustained in Bridgeport from about 1830 until the consolidation of the public schools in 1876, and the establishment of the high school grade.

Rev. Samuel Blatchford and Rev. Elijah Waterman had private schools, not only for candidates for the ministry but for others; and Rev. Birdsey G. Noble had one, also, on Fairfield avenue in 1834. Amos A. Pettengill kept such a school in 1838. Also the following: Mr. Abbott, in the basement of the South Church in 1835-6; Mr. Isaac H. Johnson, in the same place in 1837; Mr. Warren W. Selleck, on the corner of Main and State streets in 1835 and continued for twenty-five years, with several changes of location; Rev. Henry Jones, Cottage Classical School, already spoken of; Rev. Guy B. Day, a classical and English school; George W. Yates, at 89 Courtland street in 1845. Mr. Yates removed to Bennington, Vt., and the school was continued by Mr. Day for many years; Emory F. Strong had a select school and military institute; and Seth B. Jones one of the same kind at 176 Park avenue, which is still continued.

Young Ladies' Seminaries have been as follows: Mrs. M. M. Mallapar, daughter of William Eaton, Esq., first located at the foot of Toilsome Hill—Park avenue—about 1837, removed to 39 Courtland street, where the institution flourished as a popular boarding school a number of years. Mrs. Mallapar was the organist at St. John's Church, also, many years.

Misses Lydia R. and Susan C. Ward conducted a very popular select school for young ladies from about 1835, in the basement of the South Church, and later for many years at 307 Lafayette street, to about 1870. In the later period they educated many of the daughters of their earlier pupils. The Misses Hinsdale succeeded the Misses Ward for a few years.

Miss Emily Nelson conducted a select boarding and day school for young ladies at 23 Harrison street, known then and since as Golden Hill Seminary, and after some years removed to her present elegant location, 107 Golden Hill street, as heretofore noticed.

Miss Whiting commenced the Hillside Seminary which has been continued by others at 235 East Washington avenue.

⁷ Received too late for insertion in the proper connection.



Hillside Seminary, a boarding and day school for young ladies and children, is advantageously located on Golden Hill in Bridgeport. In 1856 or '57 Miss E. B. Whiting opened, on Gilbert street, with four children the school now known as Hillside Seminary. It soon became too large for its accommodations. The room was enlarged, but proving, then, insufficient, Miss Whiting, in 1867, secured the present location on Washington avenue, known as the "Old Bostwick Place." In 1868 the building was enlarged and improvements made. The school was prosperous, when in 1871, Miss Whiting married Mr. T. James Rundel, and Miss Wolcott took her place for three years. Then Mrs. Whiting-Rundel renewed her connection with the school, remaining as its principal and owner until her final withdrawal in 1876. During these years the school was particularly known as a French and English institution, and earned for itself the highest reputation.

In 1876, Miss A. J. Stone, Miss Knowles—afterwards Mrs. F. E. Fitch—and Miss Slade—afterwards Mrs. W. R. Hopson—succeeded Mrs. Rundel, continuing the line of studies much the same as it had been, but gradually bringing science and classics to the front. In 1881, Mrs. Knowles-Fitch removed from the city, and Miss Stone and Mrs. Slade-Hopson continued the institution. Extensive additions and alterations were then made in the building, which under successive improvements has been most excellently arranged for school purposes. Under its present principals the school has maintained its previous creditable reputation and high standing, and laid the foundation for increased estimation. Its graduating courses have been made more and more systematic and thorough, and the Alumnae of Hillside Seminary have maintained creditable standing compared with similar institutions.

The First School in the Bridgeport school district was located on the north side of State street at what is now No. 200. The building was built of brick in octagonal form, and the teachers were changed every year. Among them were Rev. ——— Bronson, a Baptist clergyman, who served the Stratfield and Stepney churches; and James Seeley of Easton, father of Mr. William K. and Fred. O. Seeley, of Bridgeport.

About the year 1826, the old brick building was removed and another, three stories high, built of wood, was erected, which was dignified with the name of the "High-School house," but which was really "high" only in the eminence of the structure. The public school occupied the first and second stories of this building while the upper story was the room of St. John's Lodge. Up to 1840, the town and other meetings were held at this house. Here the late Eben French of North avenue—Fresh Pond—wielded the rod a number of years. He was an excellent penman and left his mark as a teacher of that art, in the hand-writing of many of the citizens of this town.

In 1827, in a spasmodic attempt to improve the schools, Miss Lydia R. Ward, a native of Salem, Mass., was secured as a teacher, to introduce the monitorial or Lancasterian system. But little success attended this effort. On the erection of the Second Congregational Church in 1830, Miss Ward with her sister Sarah C. Ward, opened a select school for Misses and young ladies and achieved therein great success. These ladies afterwards purchased a fine lot on Lafayette street and erected on it their ample residence, No. 309. In 1846 they erected on the same lot their Gothic school building and occupied it until 1876, when their



personal supervision was relinquished. Few teachers have made a longer, more successful or honorable record. It must be a matter of great satisfaction to look over the long and distinguished list of the Alumni, including the wives and daughters of many of the best citizens of this region of country. It has been Miss Ward's rare fortune to educate the daughters of many of her former pupils.

Miss Ward excelled in penmanship and was very successful in imparting her own style and quality of writing to her pupils, which were in decided contrast with the angular scrawls which characterized other schools then and since. These qualities she still retains in a remarkable degree, even at the advanced age of more than four score years, although the lines give unmistakable evidence of the trembling hand, as appears in the following fac-simile of a note of a recent date, here inserted by permission, and which will introduce Miss Ward in another rôle as the President and Patron of the Bridgeport Protestant Orphan Asylum:

309. La Fayette St.

Sept 8th 1884

R. B. Lacey, Esq.

Please present to
the gentlemen, who so kindly
remembered the children,
the thanks of the officers
of the Asylum, for \$2.⁵⁰/₁₀₀
received by me, on the 8th inst.
Also accept our gratitude
to yourself, for your kind
appreciation of our work,
Yours, Truly,
Lydia R. Ward, Pres.

The Public Library.—In the beginning of the sketch of the Bridgeport Public Library and Reading Room, on page 688, some erroneous statements are made and some items are left out, which are here corrected and supplied from the records of the old library association. After many fruitless efforts to render the library self-supporting, the Directors of the Library Association at a meeting held May 27th, 1881, resolved: "That the Library be closed on and after June 15th, 1881, until further notice." Mrs. Hills, the Librarian, signified her willingness to serve as librarian without charge on Thursdays during the enforced closure, which offer was accepted. No further action was taken by this meeting, as Mr. D. B. Lockwood, president of the Library brought copies of the law passed at the last session of the State Legislature in regard to public libraries, and it was thought best to see what action the citizens of Bridgeport would take towards availing themselves of the Act.

On the 28th of May an article by Judge D. B. Lockwood appeared in the Bridgeport "Standard," explaining to the public the provisions of the Connecticut Public Libraries Act, and suggesting that the city should found a public Library provided the directors of the Bridgeport Library Association would transfer their property as a nucleus for it. A letter signed H. (Mrs. Hills) suggesting a petition to the Common Council was published in the "Standard" of June 3d. The following day Rev. Dr. Powers circulated a petition among the most prominent tax-payers, and on June 5th Mr. W. J. Hills had 1,000 petitions printed from Rev. Dr. Powers' copy, which, with the aid of Mr. Clarence Sterling and others were circulated in stores and factories.

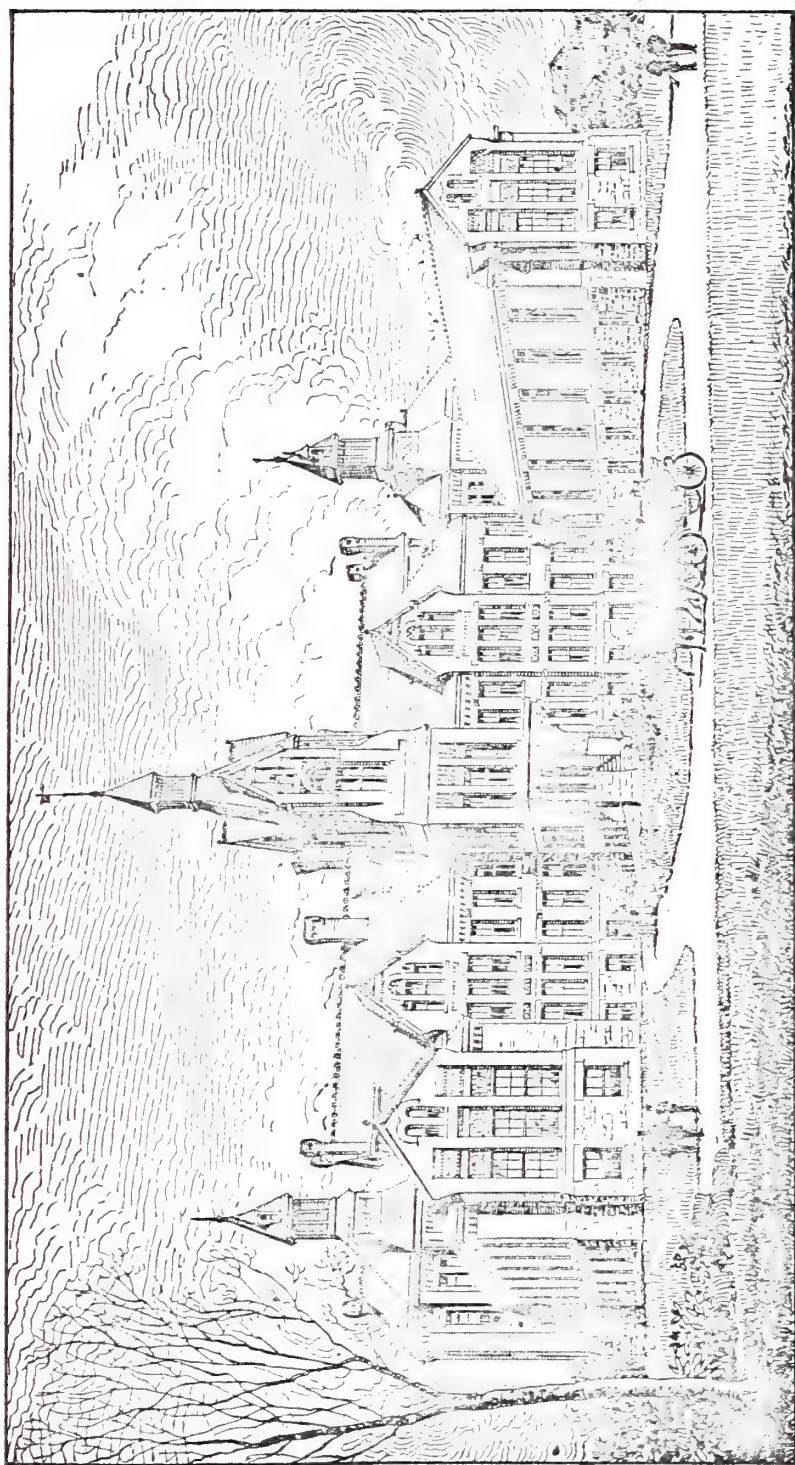
On the evening of June 6th, Alderman Charles Sherwood presented petitions bearing 1,963 signatures (this was afterwards increased to over 3,000), headed by the petition circulated by Rev. Dr. Powers, to the Common Council. Under the rules the hearing went over to the next meeting, Monday, June 20th, when Judge D. B. Lockwood explained the legal aspects of the case, and speeches in favor of the library were made by Alderman Charles Sherwood, Councilmen J. J. Phelan, Clarence Sterling, G. W. Warner and others. Only one speech opposing it was made. The establishment of a Free Library was passed by a vote of 20 to 1—three members of the council being absent.

After many efforts to get a quorum of the Directors of the Library Association together, and many legal technicalities of the law unravelled by Judge D. B. Lockwood, the formal transfer of the property of the old library to the Free Public Library took place August 1st, 1881.

The Bridgeport Hospital was incorporated by the Legislature in January, 1878, and is probably as complete in its adaptation and appointments as any institution of the kind in the country. The marble tablet in the spacious corridor of the main building has inscribed the name of Mrs. Susan Hubbell as the first donor towards founding a hospital. Her bequest was originally about \$13,500, with an acre of ground on Mill Hill avenue. The fund accumulated, and by donations and collections from churches, societies, and other sources, the amount was increased to over twenty thousand dollars. Upon an appeal to the Legislature, it appropriated \$50,000 for this object, when the corporation had \$50,000 subscribed and paid in, besides the site. This was accomplished through the indefatigable efforts of Dr. George F. Lewis of the soliciting committee, assisted by the other members, Robert J. White, William B. Hincks and D. N. Morgan.



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drawing from original



BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL, COMPLETED IN 1884.



The following were the first officers of the corporation: P. T. Barnum, President; E. F. Bishop, Vice-President; George F. Lewis, Secretary and Treasurer; Jarratt Morford, Wm. B. Hincks and Robert White, Executive Committee; P. T. Barnum, Samuel W. Baldwin, George F. Lewis, F. B. Hall, R. W. Bunnell, E. F. Bishop, Robert J. White, Amos S. Treat, William B. Hincks, Charles B. Hotchkiss, Jarratt Morford, Samuel C. Trubee, Directors. The building was erected under the direction of the executive committee at the time consisting of Samuel W. Baldwin, Wm. B. Hincks and D. N. Morgan, at an expense of over \$100,000. It was opened to the public November 11, 1884, and since that date to June 28, 1886, 290 patients have been received.

The present officers of the corporation are: P. T. Barnum, President; Jarratt Morford, Vice-President; Dr. W. H. Bunnell, Secretary; S. C. Kingman, Treasurer; Samuel W. Baldwin, Wm. B. Hincks and D. N. Morgan, Executive Committee; Wm. H. Rockwell, Auditor; P. T. Barnum, R. W. Bunnell, S. W. Baldwin, David W. Plumb, D. A. Morgan, Joel Farist, Wm. B. Hincks, Charles B. Hotchkiss, Jarratt Morford and Samuel C. Trubee, Amos S. Treat (deceased), Directors. The physician in charge is George F. Lewis, M.D., and the House physician George V. Price, M.D. The consulting and visiting physicians and surgeons, also the specialists, have taken the deepest interest in the success of the institution since its formal opening. This hospital, although now finely equipped, will, in the future, need additional facilities, but it is believed that an institution so grand and humane in its object, cannot fail to meet with generous remembrances by those who may be able to render such aid as it shall need.

A Young Men's Christian Association was organized in Bridgeport in 1868, with a constitution and by-laws. In 1869-70 the officers were: Dabney Carr, President; Henry Sterling, Emery F. Strong, and R. P. Chapman, Vice-Presidents; C. P. Porter, Treasurer; and William F. Fosket, Secretary. This society continued its work with much effort and success, held regular meetings, maintaining a free reading-room and doing much work by committees, in the idea of evangelical Christian work, until 1872, when the efforts were discontinued.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Bridgeport now in operation, was organized June 4, 1883, and incorporated in February, 1884. During the summer of 1883 the association employed Mr. W. E. Colley, then general secretary of the Salem, Mass., association, as general secretary, and he entered upon his work September 1, 1883. The next November the association took possession of their present rooms, which were fitted by the proprietor with special view to the needs of the association, and the work has gone forward with decided success to the present time, so much so that they are in need of much more ample quarters for the accommodation of their work.

The public services are held regularly in their hall at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, consisting of addresses and singing, accompanied by an effective and pleasing orchestra, and devotional exercises. Besides this service and other meetings during the week, they have an educational department, consisting of classes in vocal music, penmanship, educational studies, and the reading-room, all free to the members of the association. They have, also, the social department, physical culture, employment and boarding house, and boy's department, each of which is placed in charge of a special committee. Under this generous arrangement much very valuable work has been accomplished.



The officers of the association are: President, Doctor I. DeVer Warner; Vice-Presidents, Daniel W. Kissam, Daniel E. Marsh, Marshall E. Morris; Treasurer, Francis W. Marsh; Recording Secretary, Doctor W. H. Donaldson; General Secretary, W. E. Colley; Auditor, George Munger.

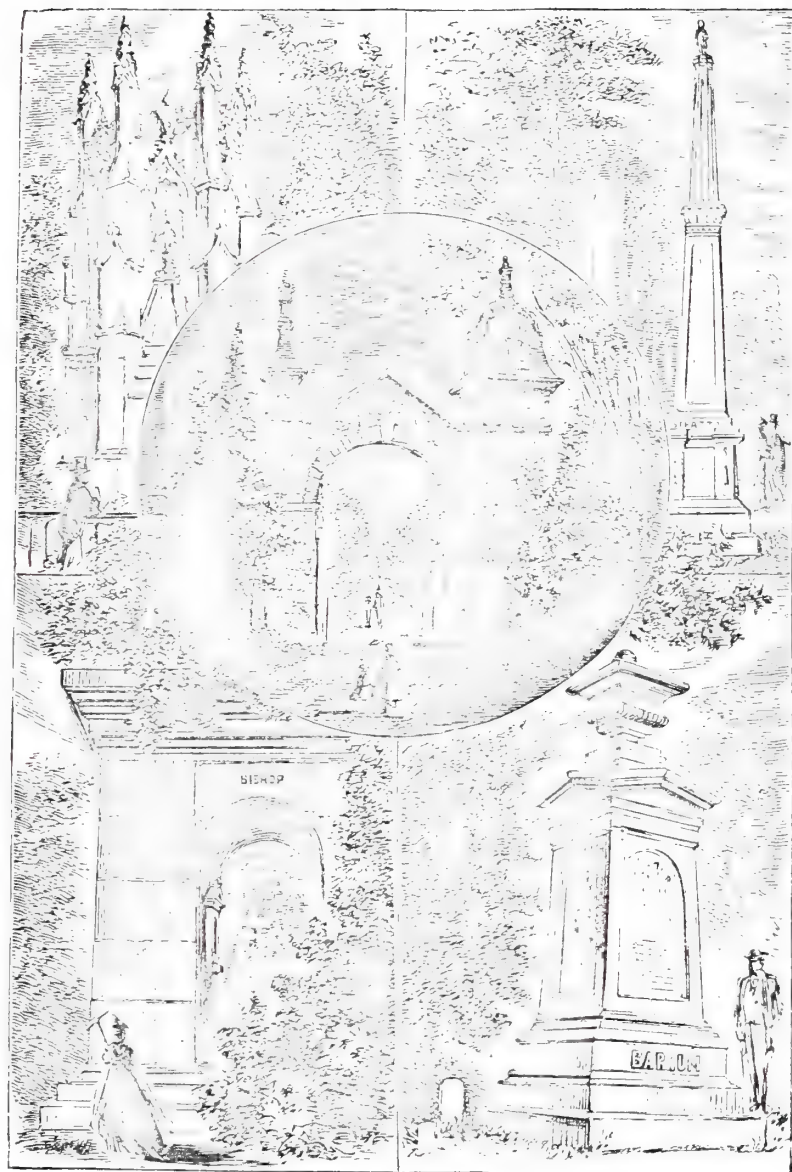
The Philomathean Society.—The society which was well known in Bridgeport by this name twenty years ago, was a literary association of unusual excellence, dignity and tenacity of life. It was the successor of a society formed about 1854, of which James L. Gould, Lemuel J. Beardsley, John Cogswell, Curtis Thompson, Luther R. Riggs, John B. Dunning, and others were members. The Philomathean society was probably organized in 1855 and continued in active operation most of the time till the latter part of 1866. It had at one period over seventy members and many will remember its public debates and entertainments, notably those of January 11 and April 19, 1858. The following annotated list of members is interesting and shows concisely the make-up of the society.

NOTE.—Those marked † died in the service of their country in the war of the rebellion. *c*, became clergyman. *l*, lawyers. *p*, physicians.

George W. Banks.	William H. Hawley. †	H. P. Pelton.
John A. J. Barnes.	Edward Y. Hincks. <i>c</i>	Benjamin P. Penfield.
John Samuel Beers. <i>c</i>	Enoch P. Hincks.	Noel B. Sanborn.
George K. Birdsey.	John H. Hincks. <i>c</i>	L. A. Sanchez.
Charles K. Bishop.	William B. Hincks.	C. E. Sanford. <i>p</i>
Robert C. Booth. <i>c</i>	Charles E. Hubbell.	William E. Seeley.
James S. Bunnell.	William L. Hubbell.	Henry M. Sherman. <i>c</i>
Samuel R. Calthrop. <i>c</i>	Peter Hughes.	Lucuis Sherwood.
Oscar Chamberlain. <i>l</i>	O. S. Jennings.	E. Silliman.
H. W. Chatfield. †	Charles N. Judson. <i>l</i>	Lewis B. Silliman.
Thomas Connor.	Frederick N. Judson. <i>l</i>	Frederick W. Simmons.
R. R. Crawford. †	Pixlee Judson.	John B. Snow.
Heman Crosby.	Walter Judson.	Henry S. Sterling.
Frederick L. Curtis. †	Courtland Kelsey.	Sherwood Sterling, Jr.
Wright Curtis.	S. Clayton Kingman.	H. Stevens.
Charles F. Daniels.	Charles F. Lemon.	E. A. St. John.
L. W. Eaton.	Benjamin B. Lewis.	E. A. Thayer.
Walter Fletcher.	George F. Lewis. <i>p</i>	Curtis Thompson. <i>l</i>
William H. Foote.	Philip E. Lockwood.	Frederick H. Thompson.
G. Fredericks.	Roger H. Lyon. <i>l</i>	C. Edward Toucey.
John S. Gaffney.	Brainard W. Maples.	Joshua G. Towne.
L. Gannon.	Edward W. Marsh.	Morris Tuttle. <i>l</i>
Frederick Giraud.	J. H. Osborn.	Daniel H. Wardwell.
James L. Gould. <i>l</i>	John Ogle, Jr.	Clarence H. Waugh.
Henry S. Gregory.	Albert M. Palmer.	Charles B. Wheeler.
Andrew Grogan.	J. Wilbur Parrott. <i>l</i>	Alva E. Wilcox. †
Henry T. Hanford.	Jewett Peck.	Henry T. Winslow.
Chauncey M. Hatch.	Nathan F. Peck.	Augustus N. Wood.
Alexander Hawley.	Thaddeus E. Peck.	N. Eugene Wordin. <i>p</i>
Marcus C. Hawley.	Gilead S. Peet. <i>p</i>	

The society gave to the Bridgeport library association at different times \$150. It was succeeded by the Philologean Society, composed of younger members, which existed but a short time.





GATE OF MOUNTAIN GROVE CEMETERY.



Delightful reunions were held in the summers of 1875 and 1876; several numbers of an interesting and able manuscript paper called the "Philomathean Review," were at different times prepared and read. These, with the records of the society, were carefully preserved by William B. Hincks, Esq. A large number of the former members of this society are among our foremost citizens, and it is not too much to say that they owe much of their success to the practical training which they received at its meetings.

The Cemeteries of Bridgeport are six in number; two having been removed to the later ones.

Mountain Grove Cemetery contains about 80 acres and is located in the northwestern part of the city, and is bounded on the west by the beautiful, meandering stream called Ash Creek, but in early times Uncoway River. The Association, for its construction and care, was organized in 1849, and opened with appropriate ceremonies on June 7, 1850. In 1852, Miss Hayes—a celebrated singer—while the guest of Mr. P. T. Barnum, preparatory to a professional tour in California, was induced to give a concert for the benefit of this cemetery, and the proceeds were devoted to the erection of the beautiful stone tower and gateway at the entrance of these grounds.

In 1878, a fair held by the citizens of Bridgeport, at St. John's Hall, realized eleven thousand dollars profits, which were expended in grading and beautifying the grounds of this cemetery.

The grave stones with a large proportion of the remains of the old Division street or Park avenue burying ground were removed to this cemetery in 1873.

Pembroke Cemetery is situated in the northeastern part of the city, north of Old Mill Green, and bordering on Stillman's Pond. It was chartered in October, 1811, and originally contained but one acre of ground, to which 77 rods were added in 1844. From 1862 to 1872, the old ground being full, it became overgrown with brush, and burials in it ceased. In 1872, the charter of the association was amended, permission being given to purchase one hundred acres of land, to sell the old ground, and to remove the dead to the new inclosure. Sixteen acres were accordingly purchased at the above described place, and fitted in good style, and the place is fast being filled with monumental stones.

Park Cemetery is located in the northern portion of the city territory, and was organized in 1878. It contains about 44 acres, and many interments have already been made in it.

The Stratfield Cemetery is located in the northwestern part of the city, and is described on page 77 of this book.

Two Catholic Cemeteries are located within the city limits; one between Arctic and Shelton streets in the eastern part of the city, fronting on Pembroke Lake, and the other on Grove street—formerly Cook's lane—in the western part of the city. In 1885, another Catholic cemetery was secured and the grading of the grounds commenced, in West Stratford. It is extensive and very fine in location, and sandy soil.

The Sea-side Club was organized at a meeting held at the Sterling House on April 30th, 1834. The following is a copy of the original call for this meeting, issued in circular form:

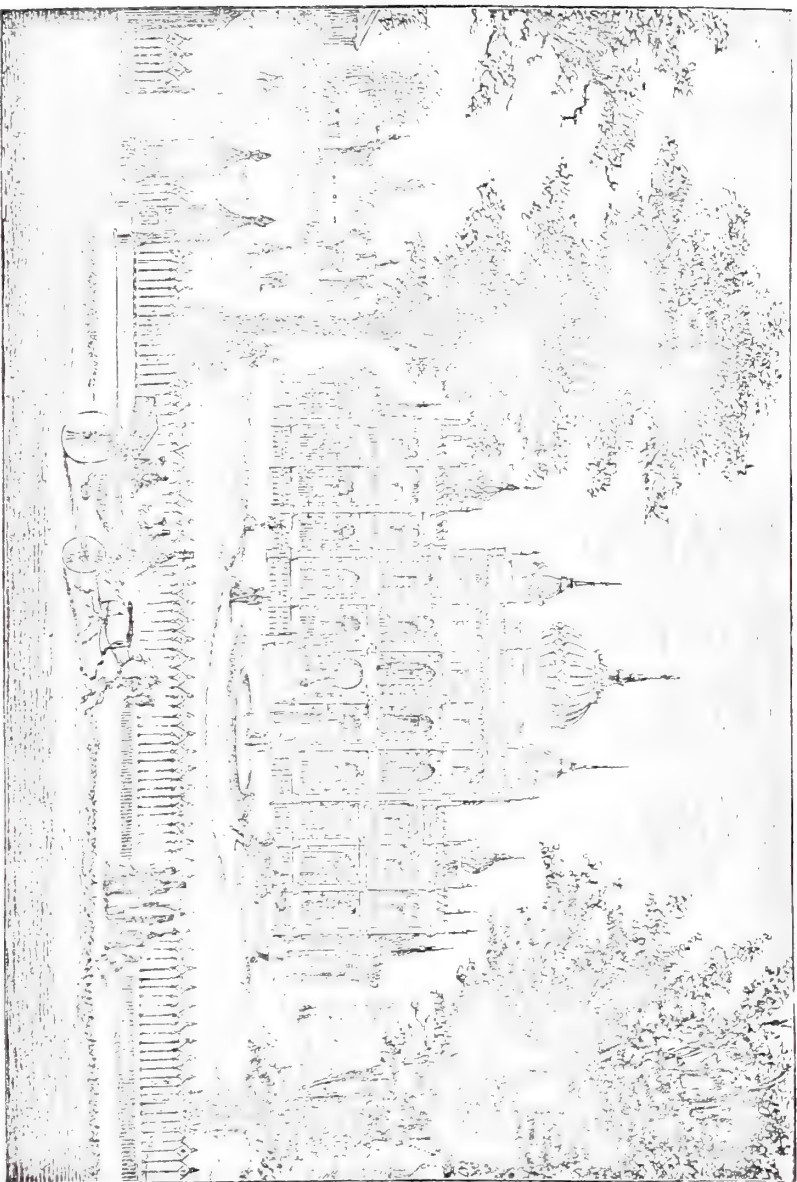


"BRIDGEPORT, CONN., April 26, 1884.

"*Dear Sir* :—There has been for a long time an expressed desire among many gentlemen in this city owning and interested in 'Road Driving Horses,' that an association be organized and have for its purpose of meeting a suitable room or rooms, where pleasant 'Horse Sense' may be indulged in and anything pertaining thereto discussed. To this end the following named gentlemen have been invited to meet at the Sterling House parlor, on Wednesday, April 30, 1884, at 8 o'clock, P. M., to have an expression of opinion. As your name appears in the list, it is hoped that you have an interest sufficient to be present and help organize, as a charter member, what is thought will be a pleasant and most desirable association. Nathaniel Wheeler, Wm. H. Perry, E. G. Burnham, Clapp Spooner, D. M. Read, Francis Ives, Thos. DeForest, Joel Farist, Chas. F. Wood, E. R. Ives, Dr. I. DeVer Warner, Col. T. L. Watson, E. C. Bessick, David Trubee, D. E. Marsh, Eleazer Parmly, J. C. Tallman, C. G. Lyon, Frank Miller, Edward Downs, Saml. T. Banks, Wm. T. Hubbell, Edwin Banks, Zalmon Goodsell, Chas. R. Willett, Frank H. Whiting, W. Minor Smith, Erwin Strickland, Chas. A. Ives, Geo. Bushnell, Henry Setzer, Jr., B. F. Lasher, S. T. Cate, O. C. Smith, S. M. Cate, Jr., Henry B. Drew, L. W. Besse, Tracey B. Warren, Geo. E. Botsford, Chas. Wilson, Alex. Leverty, Chas. F. Williams, and F. J. Naramore. Making a total of forty-three names." In response to this call twenty-eight gentlemen were in attendance at this meeting and completed the organization with E. R. Ives as President, Chas. F. Williams, Treasurer, and F. J. Naramore, Secretary. At a subsequent meeting Mr. Ives resigned and Mr. Nathaniel Wheeler was elected in his place, and Mr. E. G. Burnham 1st Vice-President, Francis Ives, 2d Vice-President. The following named gentlemen were chosen as the Executive Committee: E. G. Burnham, Francis Ives, D. M. Read, Erwin Strickland, B. F. Lasher, W. R. Briggs, E. R. Ives, and the President, Secretary and Treasurer, as members *ex-officio*. The present rooms in the Bishop building were selected and some \$8,000 expended in fitting up and furnishing. This money was realized from the membership fees and yearly dues without any assessment, and was entirely paid for the first year. Every gentleman in the original call became a member, and after several meetings had been held, there were so many who expressed a desire to become members, and yet were not owners of horses nor particularly interested in them, it was voted to drop the word "Driving" and make the club name "The Sea-side Club," and under this cognomen make it a social or business men's club. From this time the membership constantly increased, and at the present time the membership roll is two hundred and eighty. Nothing can speak louder in terms of praise for the character and stability of this club than the fact that in many cases fathers have proposed their sons for membership into this club to become acquainted and associated with sound conservative business men, men who represent the large manufacturing and mercantile interests of our city. On many occasions the club have extended to out-of-town bodies the use of their rooms for meetings, which has been highly appreciated, and these handsome rooms have reflected great credit not only upon the club, but upon our city and its citizens. The constitution and by-laws of this club are very conservative and quite different from those generally governing organizations of this kind.

The Bridgeport Board of Trade was organized at a meeting of citizens in the Mayor's office, January 15, 1875, and the following officers elected: Hon. Robert T. Clarke, President; Nathaniel Wheeler, P. T. Barnum, Jarratt Morford, E. V. Hawes and J. D. Alvord, Vice-Presidents; T. R. Crutenden,





IRANSTAN: THE RESIDENCE OF HON. P. T. BARNUM IN 1848.

Secretary; Thomas L. Watson, Treasurer. The following Directors were also elected: Robert T. Clarke, N. Wheeler, J. Morford, E. V. Hawes, B. Soules, M. W. Seymour, D. W. Sherwood, C. B. Hotchkiss, Handford Lyon, P. T. Barnum, J. D. Alvord, James Staples, George Mallory, D. M. Read, Wm. H. Noble, Frederick Hurd, S. C. Kingman, E. S. Burnham, Charles Hough, E. G. Westcott, S. W. Baldwin, R. Kost, Z. Goodsell, G. W. Bacon, W. H. Wessels, S. C. Nickerson, E. Parmly, N. Buckingham, A. C. Hobbs, E. L. Gaylord, R. B. Lacey, N. G. Miller.

The scope and objects of the Board are set forth in the following extract from the original articles:

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to encourage and stimulate in every suitable way the business interests of the city. They may appoint committees from the members of the association to examine all plans and suggestions that may seem important to the general interests of our city, to investigate mechanical inventions, and manufacturing and other enterprises, and report to the association the value of the same and what steps, if any, may be necessary to procure their development and location in our midst. Also to receive applications in behalf of meritorious inventions and enterprises and bring them to the attention of capital seeking investment."

At the end of the first year the secretary reported 144 names on the roll of membership. The Board was incorporated by act of the Legislature at its May session in 1876, which was accepted; a new code of by-laws adopted and the old organization merged into the new one. On due application the Board became associated with the National Board of Trade, in which it holds an honorable position. The first annual banquet of the Board was held at the Sterling House February 3, 1876, and these annual gatherings have been a marked feature of this successful organization ever since.

David M. Read, Esq., is serving his eleventh year as President and R. B. Lacey his tenth as Secretary. A large share of the real labor of the association devolves upon the officers and Mr. James Staples of the executive committee, and while a hearty coöperation is rendered by others, a large measure of the efficiency attributed to the Board is due to their efforts. In prosecuting its work a map of the city, with accompanying descriptions was published, but is now out of print. A reduced fac-simile has been secured for this book, and is herewith inserted.

*P. T. Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth*¹ has a home in Bridgeport, where it quietly rests about five months in each year. It is a collection resulting from the skill and experience of many years in this line of business, by Messrs. P. T. Barnum, J. A. Bailey, J. L. Hutchinson and others, as an instructive exhibition of trained animals and human beings. In the exhibitions made under one or other of these gentlemen during the last forty years there have been various specialties presented to the admiration and wonder

¹ The author is indebted to the Courier Printing Company, of Buffalo, N. Y., for the use of the full page illustrations, accompanying this article, which they use as publishers of "*P. T. Barnum's Life, written by Himself.*"



of the people, but during the last sixteen years the specialties have culminated in one monster or mammoth show which defies delineation, and is only approximately represented by the unequaled posters seen in large cities a month in advance of the progress of the exhibition itself. The buildings which provide "Winter Quarters" for the animals and carriages during the winter months, cover several acres of ground, and, instead of being unsightly and unwelcome, are so constructed and kept as to be rather picturesque and agreeable, and are welcomed by the people of the city.

Mr. Barnum and his great show with their world-wide reputation, having been portrayed by a million or more copies of his book, "Struggles and Triumphs," as well as having been seen by tens of millions of people, need no eulogy nor publication in this book, but it is equally evident that any work purporting to be a history of Bridgeport, without a careful review of his life career, would be a misnomer, and unworthy to be read under such a title. As with all the actors on the present stage of life, so with Mr. Barnum, he will soon be known only to history, and any work of this character on Bridgeport that did not approximately represent the relations to it of the most celebrated man who ever lived in it—if not in America—would be a dishonor to its author and the citizens of the celebrated Park City. The difficulty of the task of making such a representation within the limited space possible, is appreciated by the present author, not for the want of any moral qualities in the subject—those being high above any question whatever—but because of the varied, unusual and almost marvelous relations of the subject to this city, as well as to the whole world for more than half a century; relations made and effected by the most intensely active, energetic and successful life, clouded by such mammoth financial misfortunes under the highest moral rectitude as defy description, and would have crushed, seemingly, anybody but P. T. Barnum. His book—the autobiography—is well named, giving as it does the actual facts, "Struggles and Triumphs," but fortunately for him and the world it can be emphatically said, in the words of the often repeated announcement of a popular vote—the *Triumphs* "have it."



P T Barnum

Hon. P. T. Barnum was born in Bethel, Conn., July 5, 1810, and named Phineas Taylor Barnum by his mother's father, Phineas Taylor. Having passed his boyhood and youth, his start as a showman began in 1835 by the purchase and exhibition of Joyce Heth, a colored woman said to have been the nurse of Gen. George Washington and 161 years of age. His next venture was the exhibition of "Signor Antonio" and "a Mr. Roberts." In 1836, he connected himself with Aaron Turner's traveling circus, going south, and the year following he organized a new company and went west, reaching the Missouri river where he purchased a steamer and sailed down the river to New Orleans. There he sold his steamer for sugar and molasses and arrived at New York June 4th, 1838. The year 1840, he spent in the mercantile business, selling shoe blacking, and on a minstrel tour through the west, returning again to New York in the Spring of 1841. That year he bought the American Museum, and commenced a series of improvements by way of attractive exhibitions. One of these was the model of Niagara Falls, illustrated with real water; another was the celebrated mermaid, which in a short time became the topic for talk and joke, all over the United States; another was free music by a band at his museum, and the powerful Drummond Lights, which lighted Broadway as it had never been before. He introduced the Lecture Room, a reform of the stage or theater. Then were added paintings all over the museum and a zoological garden outside of the building. When crowds of people gathered on holidays, the cry of humbug was started, but this only made the people talk and go the more to the museum. Following these, came the baby shows, with premiums for the prettiest baby, or the fattest, or the most beautiful twins or triplets; and a free buffalo hunt in the Jerseys' a good joke for advertising. In 1843, came the Woolly Horse, a truly curious appearing animal but really a horse, followed by the Indians from the west, and then the purchase of Peale's Museum, a pretended rival institution, having a valuable collection of articles.

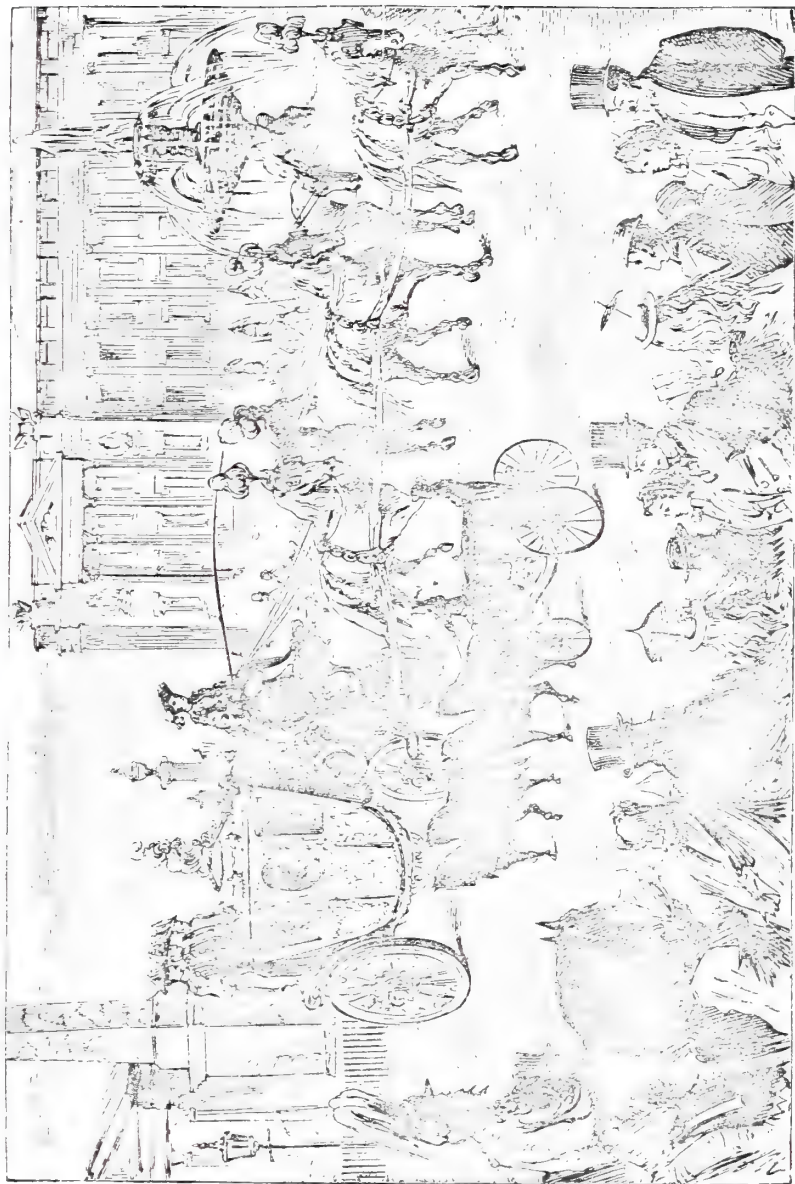
The museum now became almost a mania with Mr. Barnum. He was constantly searching for and obtaining



something new, amusing or wonderful, and all the exhibitions he made were instructive to the people—moral and elevating. His methods of bringing his institution constantly before the minds of the people and the success thereby secured, first impressed the American mind with the advantages of advertising. His odd or striking, yet appropriate names, startled the people and kept them talking about his "Mermaid," "Woolly Horse," "Sea Lion," "Tom Thumb," and "What is it?" All over the country, the boys who never saw Barnum nor a ticket to his museum or show, learned these names, and laughed and joked about them, and then at the earliest opportunity, went to the show.

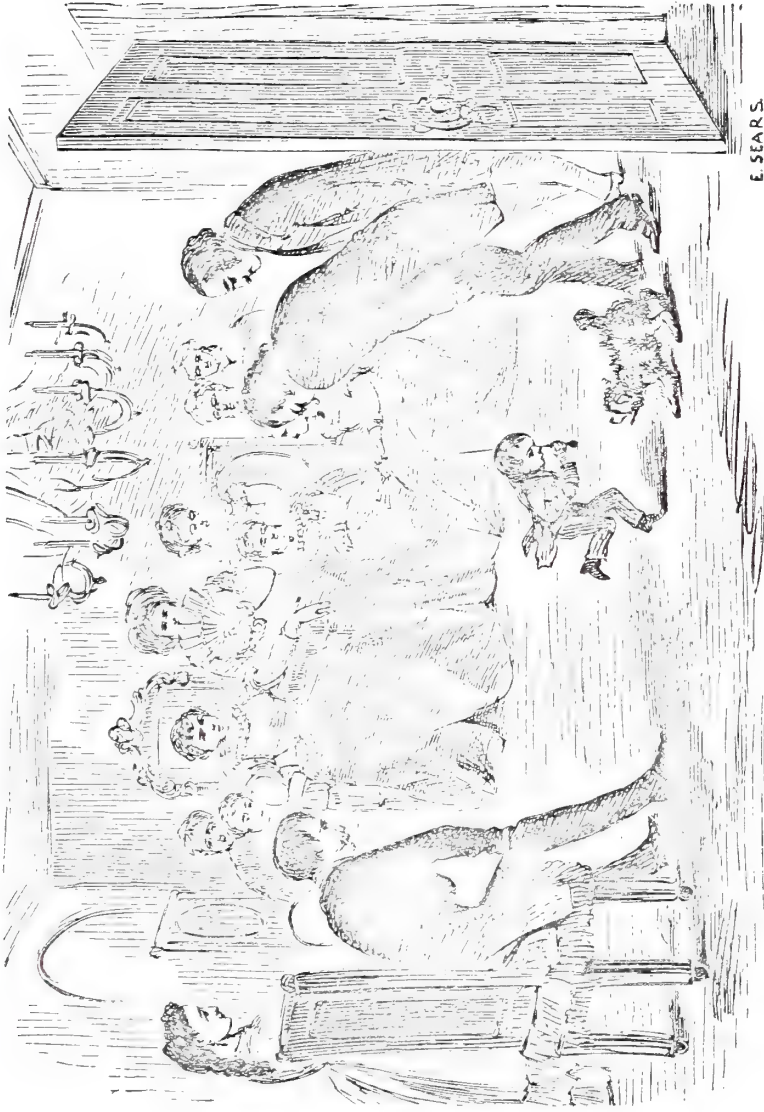
General Tom Thumb was secured for exhibition by Mr. Barnum in 1842. His first name was Charles S. Stratton, son of Sherwood E. Stratton of Bridgeport. He was very small, not two feet in height, weighed less than sixteen pounds, perfectly formed, bright-eyed, light haired, with ruddy cheeks, possessing the best of health, but exceedingly bashful. An engagement was made with his parents, and the child with the mother arrived at Mr. Barnum's Museum on Thanksgiving day, December 8, 1842, and he was announced on the museum bills as "General Tom Thumb." This name, like those of all the other specialties of Mr. Barnum, was the most fitting and captivating of any that could have been chosen. "What is in a name?" A hundred thousand dollars, sometimes. Great success attended the exhibition of Tom Thumb for nearly two years, and then on January 18, 1844, Mr. Barnum sailed with him and his parents for Liverpool, where, on arrival, the exhibitions were renewed. They went to London and soon to the presence of the Queen at Buckingham Palace, and afterwards two other visits were made to the same place by her royal commands. From London the party went to Paris where the General received great attention and won golden crowns, in great numbers. He was invited to the presence of the King and Queen and the royal family, and his visits to King Louis Philippe, of France, were repeated twice by invitation. For the first day's exhibition to the general public in Paris, Mr. Barnum received 5,500 francs. The accompanying cut represents General Tom





ROYAL HONORS TO GENERAL TOM THUMB.





GENERAL TOM THUMB BEFORE QUEEN VICTORIA.

Thumb in his carriage, occupying, by royal permission, a place in the avenue, reserved only for the Court and diplomatic corps, on a great day of parade. The General's stay in Paris was a triumph rather than a success. From that place the party traveled through France and Belgium and back to England, where the profitable exhibition continued until the return to New York in February, 1847.

The General's father, on returning from England with a handsome fortune, placed a portion of it at interest for the General, and more for himself, and with thirty thousand dollars built a substantial dwelling on the corner of North avenue and Main street, at Bridgeport, where he resided until his decease.

After returning to America, Mr. Barnum made a tour with his little General through the United States and Cuba. It was during this tour in 1847-8 that he had his beautiful dwelling built at Bridgeport, which he called "Iranistan"—the word signifying "Oriental Villa;"—and on November 14, 1848, nearly one thousand invited guests were present at an old-fashioned "housewarming." It stood a little back from the northwest corner of the present Fairfield and Iranistan avenues, and some years after it accidentally took fire and was consumed. This beautiful and very remarkable structure, built in Oriental style, was the first great boom for the celebrity of Bridgeport. The picture of it went over the country in the illustrated newspapers, as "a thing of beauty," a marvel of wonder, and an honor to all America. Mr. Barnum says in his book that he did not care to know "how much it did cost to build it," but as a fact it finally cost him nothing, since by it his museum receipts were probably enough more than to pay the cost. This picture was cut out of the newspapers, framed and hung in the houses, put in scrap books, and in many ways preserved and admired by the people all over the country.

The Jenny Lind enterprise was the next great undertaking of Mr. Barnum. It was conceived by him in October, 1849, the engagement made with the great singer January 9, 1850, by which \$187,500 were to be deposited by Mr. Barnum in advance of all proceedings, and which was done, Miss

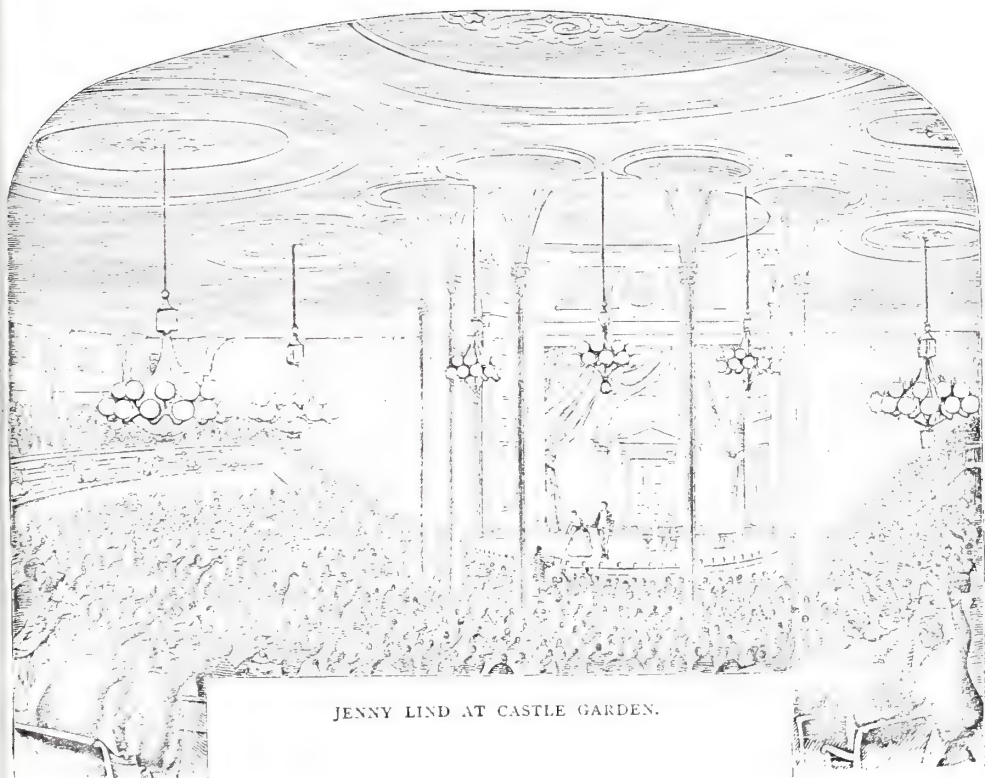


Lind arrived in New York September 1, 1850, and the first concert occurred September 11 following, the proceeds of which amounted to \$17,864.05.* Ninety-three concerts were given under Mr. Barnum's contract, terminating in May, 1851, the receipts for which amounted to \$712,161.34. It was the greatest project of the kind ever introduced into America, unto that day, and probably to the present, unless it be "Barnum's Greatest Show on Earth;" and was successfully, even grandly carried through. Such was the immense celebrity of the enterprise and the singer that it was Jenny Lind everything;—the clothes worn, the food eaten, the songs sang, the carriages the people rode in—everything of any particular consequence offered for sale, or elegant at home, had the name Jenny Lind; the only secondary thing in America, was P. T. Barnum.

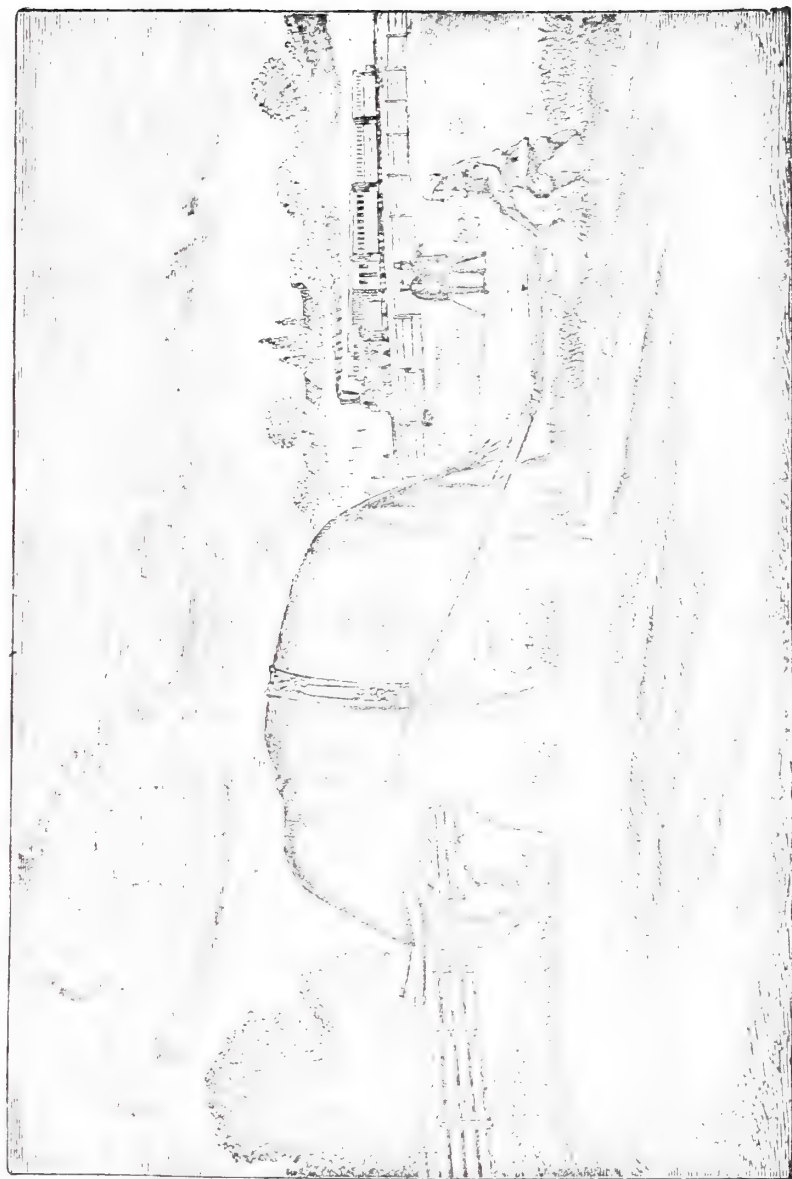
During this time the American Museum was running finely, with Tom Thumb in attendance, and many other entertainments added every year.

After fitting out his "Great Asiatic Caravan, Museum and Menagerie," at an expense of over \$100,000, and exhibiting it four years, Mr. Barnum sold the same, excepting one elephant, which he brought to Bridgeport and used for ploughing on his farm land at this place. This ploughing was done precisely on the old Indian field, where the Indians had for scores of years planted their corn before a white man's face had been seen by them; along close to the side of the railroad. The elephant, as well as his keeper, in Turkish dress, were regularly at work with the plough while the railroad trains were passing, at other times they had occasion to rest or tie-up at the barn. Soon this great agricultural enterprise appeared in the papers and went the entire rounds of the press in this country and very much in Europe. Hundreds of people came many miles to witness the spectacle, and hundreds of letters came, with the questions: "Is the elephant a profitable agricultural animal? How much can he plough in a day? How much can he draw? How much

* The accompanying illustrations—the portrait of Jenny Lind and her appearance at Castle Garden—are secured from A. Nichols & Co., of Springfield, Mass., the publishers of the work entitled "Our First Century."



JENNY LIND AT CASTLE GARDEN.



BARNUM'S ELEPHANT PLOUGHING IN 1855.

does he eat? What is the price of an elephant? Where can elephants be purchased?" For a long time, but few persons suspected that the ploughing was all done for the American Museum on Broadway in New York.

But the illustrated papers were full of the pictures of Barnum's elephant ploughing at Bridgeport, and thousands of people became familiar with that representation of this city.

In 1851, Mr. Barnum purchased of Mr. William H. Noble of Bridgeport, the undivided half of his late father's estate, consisting of fifty acres of land lying on the east side of the river, opposite the city of Bridgeport. They intended this as the nucleus of a new city, which they concluded could soon be built, in consequence of the many natural advantages it possessed. In view of securing this end a clock company in which Mr. Barnum was a stockholder was prevailed upon to transfer its establishment from the town of Litchfield to this new city. In addition to this it was proposed to transfer the entire business of the Jerome Clock Company, of New Haven, to East Bridgeport, and for this purpose Mr. Barnum lent that company money and notes to the amount of \$110,000, with the positive assurance that this would be the farthest extent of the company's call on him, but by peculiar management by the company they soon had Mr. Barnum involved to the amount of over half a million dollars. Then they failed, and after absorbing all of Mr. Barnum's fortune they paid but from twelve to fifteen per cent. of the company's obligations, while, in the end, they never removed to East Bridgeport, although this was the sole reason why Mr. Barnum was prompted to lend a dollar to their rotten concern. Mr. Barnum's extrication of himself from this gulf of obligation by paying such a per centage on the whole as could be met by the sale of all his property at the time was a financial feat of the highest genius, energy and honor.

Early in 1857, Mr. Barnum again went to Europe, taking with him General Tom Thumb, and also little Cordelia Howard and her parents, and traveled through England, Germany and Holland, experiencing with his little folks a most cordial and enthusiastical greeting all the way. Dur-



ing which time he amused himself (!) by remitting money as fast as secured, to pay the claims of the creditors of the abominable old clock company.

Not long after his return to New York, another great calamity befell him, as also Bridgeport and America, in the burning of the marvelously beautiful Iranistan, in December, 1857, the only building in this peculiar style of architecture of any pretensions in America. Many persons, every year, some from a great distance, visited Bridgeport to see this celebrated building and home of the great showman. Some workmen had been repairing it for some weeks, and it was supposed to have taken fire from a lighted pipe left in the dome of the building.

Early in 1858, Mr. Barnum returned to England, taking Tom Thumb, and with some help to manage the exhibition through Scotland and Wales, as well as elsewhere, he devoted himself to the "lecture field," taking for his theme "The Art of Making money," and by it he made money, hand over hand, and sent it home to apply on the clock enterprise. In 1859 he returned to the United States, and pushing on his museum found himself in 1860 within \$20,000 of extinguishing the last claim from the old clock business. This he provided for and resumed the full control of his old museum.

In 1860 he built a new house in Bridgeport on Fairfield avenue about one hundred rods west of the site of Iranistan which was named Lindencroft, in honor of Jenny Lind, and gave his attention anew to the building of his pet city, East Bridgeport. This had already made great progress. In 1856, the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Company had purchased the old clock shop, greatly enlarged it, and were employing something like a thousand hands. Churches, dwellings, and other manufactories, including that of the Howe Sewing Machine Company, had been built and the place had become quite a city. It now constitutes a large proportion of the city of Bridgeport, and is rapidly growing by the erection of elegant dwellings, large churches, and immense manufactories.

From 1860, to the present time, Mr. Barnum, although engaged with the New York Museum for years, and since that,



with his great show, has not ceased to give much attention and energetic effort to the building, prosperity and success of the city of Bridgeport, and like others has made money by the growth of the city in the increase of the value of property. This growth has not been an accident resulting particularly from natural causes, but because Mr. Barnum and many other citizens, particularly such men as Nathaniel Wheeler, William H. Noble, Elias Howe, Jr., and many others determined, at the expense of great effort and much money, to *make it grow*; and more recently this effort has been combined under the control of the Bridgeport Board of Trade with very great success. The increase of manufacturing enterprises in the city since the organization of this Board has been surprising to all the people.

In 1861, Mr. Barnum introduced into his museum Commodore Nutt, a dwarf, of most perfect form and bright intellect; and in consequence of whom there was another great run of visitors at the museum.

Then in 1862, he secured another dwarf in the person of a most perfectly formed, well educated young lady, Miss Lavinia Warren. This young lady and the then celebrated citizen of Bridgeport, General Tom Thumb, became interested in each other—a genuine love-match—and were married in Grace Church, New York City, on February 10, 1863, creating a most remarkable sensation throughout America and Europe, and during their lives thereafter the appearances were that they were among the happiest of married people in the United States.

General Tom Thumb—or more correctly, Charles S. Stratton—was a native of Bridgeport—his ancestors having resided within this territory over a hundred years—and after his marriage he and his wife continued the exhibition life to which they both had been introduced by Mr. Barnum. They traveled over the civilized world, were successful in accumulating money, established a beautiful home in Middleboro, Mass., where he died July 15, 1883, in the 46th year of his age, and was buried in Bridgeport. His was a remarkable life. He became a good business manager; took care of his own money, and was wealthy at his decease.



On the 13th day of July, 1865, the American Museum in New York was burned, with great loss; but Mr. Barnum built another, which was also burned on March 3, 1868. Therefore about a million dollars worth of Mr. Barnum's property in one dwelling and two museums, had been destroyed by fire.

In 1867 he sold his home, Lindencroft, on Fairfield avenue, and removed to the locality where he now resides, where, in 1868 he commenced the erection of his present residence, which was completed the next year. This he named *Waldemere*, the word meaning "Woods-by-the-sea." When he purchased this land, it lay adjoining the west end of Seaside Park—being a considerable portion of an old farm—and extended from Atlantic street to the shore of the Sound. Believing as he did then that Seaside Park would be of very great advantage to the people of the city, he gave seven acres lying in front of his residence, extending to the shore and from near the old Division street line to what is now Iranistan avenue to the city for enlargement of the park. This portion of the park is now largely occupied by the "Trotting Course." In 1884, he gave thirty acres more, extending the park westward toward Black Rock harbor. The park is ornamented conspicuously by his residence, and a number of others, on its northern border, and it is also true that the residences are ornamented by the park.⁹

In the autumn of 1870, Mr. Barnum commenced preparation for a great show and enterprise, comprising a museum, menagerie, caravan, hippodrome and circus, and to this show he has devoted a great proportion of his untiring energies since that day, and which he calls "The Greatest Show on Earth," and in this name as well as many others his genius seems to have hit the mark.

Mr. Barnum's "Show" opens for a few weeks every spring in the large Madison Square Garden, in New York, and during each summer it visits the principal cities in the

⁹ It should be stated that, whoever originated the idea of the park, it was Mr. Barnum that first moved in the matter to have the work done. He caused the article on the subject to be written for the "Standard" on October 1, 1863; and he gave at first one thousand dollars for beginning the improvements; and hence some statements on page 333 of this book on this subject are erroneous.





WALDEMERE, ERECTED IN 1868 AND 69.

United States and Canadas, from Quebec and Montreal on the East to Omaha in Nebraska, West; exhibiting under immense tents in one of which can be seated 20,000 persons. It consists of a large menagerie of rare wild beasts, a museum of human phenomena and living specimens of savage and strange tribes and nations, including without regard to cost everything rare and marvelous which the wealth, energy and perseverance, and half a century's experience as a public manager could gather. Much of this is accomplished by his agents who traverse nearly every part of the globe; sometimes expending as much as \$200,000 in a single year. Added to this is his reproduction of the ancient Roman Hippodrome with its chariot and other races, and various descriptions of equestrian and athletic performances, by Japanese, Chinese, Arabs and other nations.

The "Ethnological Congress" of this show contained the greatest collection of different types of strange and savage tribes, gathered from the remotest corners of the earth ever seen together. Among them were Nubian warriors, Australian Cannibals, Boomerang Casters, fierce Afghans, devotional Burmese, Syrians, Aztecs, Malays, Nautch dancing girls from India, Hottentots, Caffres, Hindoos, Patagonians, Bushmen, high and low caste Indians, Asiatics, dwarfs from India, giants from China, Todas people from the Niliqui mountains of India, Guatemalians, wild Zulus, Quiche people, Hungarian Gypsies, Sioux Indians, Siamese, Hawaiian Islanders, Ceylonese, and a dozen other types, numbering in all 200 men, women and children, arrayed in the costumes of their various countries. Among them were worshipers of Buddha, of Mahomet, of Joss, of idols, and of the Sun. Some of them would eat no meat, others would slay and drink the blood of animals and cook the carcass. Still others considered roasted snakes, lizards, and dried worms and insects the most delicate food.

The great elephant, Jumbo, purchased by Mr. Barnum from the Royal Zoological Garden in London, being the largest land animal seen for centuries, and 40 other African and Indian elephants, including two baby elephants, one of which was born in Bridgeport, Conn., and named Bridgeport—the only elephant ever born in captivity—these and scores



of trained animals transported on nearly a hundred railway cars belonging to Mr. Barnum, created an expense of \$5,000 to \$6,000 each day, and brought in over a million dollars in a single season.

Mr. Barnum has taken three experienced partners, Messrs. W. W. Cole, J. C. Hutchinson and J. E. Cooper. The contract of copartnership extends to 1899, and arrangements are made for its continuance after that time by their successors.

Another item of Mr. Barnum's business is book making and selling. Each year he adds an appendix to his Autobiography, and sells the books, under the tents to his show patrons only, at the *exact cost*—fifty cents—but at the book stores it sells for one dollar. It has over 350 pages, 40 full page illustrations, well bound, is printed in editions of 20,000 copies, and over a million copies have been sold. It has been printed in London, Paris, and Leipzig in Germany.

Mr. Barnum has been Mayor of Bridgeport, a member of the Legislature four times, president of the Pequonnock National Bank of Bridgeport, president of the Bridgeport hospital, president of the Bridgeport Water Company, and Commissioner of Seaside Park.

He gave nearly one hundred thousand dollars to Tufts College, Mass., with which was erected and stocked "The Barnum Museum" of Natural History. He has been a total abstainer from intoxicating drinks for forty years, and from tobacco twenty years. Hence he is a very active man, attending to a great amount of labor, retaining a marvelous memory of the details of his whole business life. Scarcely a fact, or joke, or anecdote has escaped; and all are ready in his mind at a moment's call.

*East Bridgeport by Personal Observation.*¹⁰

Bridgeport, about 1830, was a very aboriginal town, just creeping out of its small beginnings, after being cut loose from old Stratford. The old salt works and their plant were then visible, and the old pottery works, located south of what is now Lumber street, were then in full blast. The saddlery business of

¹⁰ This history of East Bridgeport is by permission taken from the manuscript of General William H. Noble, contributed to the Historical Society, and although containing considerable detail in the description is for that reason the more valuable.





WINTER QUARTERS OF THE GREAT BARNUM-LONDON SHOW.

Lyon and Company and the carriage works of Tomlinson and Company were about the only industries in the place of any consequence. All Golden Hill north of Golden Hill street was farm land, and the whole territory west of Main street and north of Golden Hill street was the same, much of it being wooded land. Where Washington avenue now is was a narrow road, running most of the way in a ditch.

When General William H. Noble first became acquainted with Bridgeport he came to the place for the purpose of taking passage for New York on the little steamboat John Marshall, commanded by Captain Benson, of Fairfield. The size of that boat can best be estimated by its inability to cope with the tide at Hurl Gate, for when she arrived at Hallett's Point she essayed three times to go out of the eddy, but each time as she struck the current was nearly upset by its force, and was finally compelled to lay up until the tide had flowed in from the Sound. In 1833 General Noble came to reside in Bridgeport with his father, the Rev. Birdsey G. Noble, who took, for a private school, the house on Courtland street which is now occupied by the Rev. G. B. Day. At that time the only houses in that part of the city were the one just spoken of, the old red house of the Kirtland family on the southwest corner of Washington avenue and Courtland street, the house on the opposite corner, which was then owned by Isaac Sherman, Sen., afterwards the first mayor of the city of Bridgeport, the house now occupied by Mr. Horace Nichols, and the front part of the house now occupied by Major William L. Hubbell, but at that time belonging to Captain E. Rossiter. The street now called Courtland street should be called Kirtland street, since it was laid out by Samuel C. Kirtland, one of the most enterprising citizens of Bridgeport, who, from his personal resemblance, was often taken for the Hon. Daniel Webster. The house on this street occupied by the late Russell Tomlinson, was then called the Van Polanen place, and was occupied by the widow of a Mr. Van Polanen, who had been Belgian or Dutch Consul to this country. The old lady was remarkably fond of cats. She subsequently built with Colonel O. B. Hall, the house on State street now occupied by the Misses Hunt and David C. Peck, Esq. All the space then between Courtland street, State street down as far as the residence of Doctor Nash, and Fairfield avenue to within about fifty feet of Broad street, was essentially a swamp, and the major part of it was offered some years afterward for a very small sum to the city by David B. Nichols for a public square, but was not accepted, although such a statement is almost beyond belief at the present time. The old brewery, in which much of the enterprise and money of Bridgeport was sunk, still stood and was operated by a gentleman named Samuel Swan, where now stands the hotel and the block of buildings on Harrison street owned by the estate of the late George Keeler.

The first enterprise in real estate in Bridgeport was commenced about that date by Lemuel Coleman, who bought a big stone-walled orchard and meadow lying between Pequonnock street, Washington avenue and the residence of the Hon. William D. Bishop. He removed the stone wall, built a nice picket fence further from the street, making the place desirable for residences. The first house on this improvement was built by Jesse Sterling, and is that now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. P. C. Calhoun.

While the Rev. Mr. Noble was occupying the Day place on the hill and looking around to find a site for a large private school, he decided on the property now known as East Bridgeport, which was then, all the way from Nichols street

to Old Mill, open farm land, with the exception of two dwellings and some woods. From a point on Nichols street, about two hundred feet east of Kossuth street, there was a high wooded bank, extending up to Sterling street with but one angle. At about Sterling street it met a line of woods running through Granny's Hollow—now occupied by Noble avenue—including Washington Park, and sweeping thence below Sterling street, consisting mostly of large, beautiful forest trees. From this Granny's Hollow, at about the junction of Sterling street and Noble avenue, there ran a high, partially wooded bank, following up the line of the harbor.

The area essentially between Barnum avenue and a line about one hundred feet south of Sterling street, East Main street and the harbor, of about fifty acres, belonged, at that time, to William Wright, United States Senator from New Jersey. Benjamin Brooks owned about seventeen acres just north of it, and Isaac Keeler, an old Revolutionary soldier, a like tract just north of Mr. Brooks. From this were taken—just north of Maple street—the stone with which was built the old Bridgeport bank. Judge Joseph Wood owned about twelve acres near the southwest corner of the above described fifty acres. South of this the late Isaac Burroughs, from whose daughter, Mrs. Catharine Pettengill, the Bridgeport library received so munificent a donation, owned about fifteen acres upon the harbor, running back to East Main street, in the locality of the present Burroughs and Howe streets. This whole territory was, in 1834, one of the loveliest pieces of country that could be found. Its girdle of woodland along the harbor running northward to the old Berkshire Bridge, and that of which Washington Park is a part, extending to about Burroughs street, were fine pieces of forest, furnished with all the apparel and undergrowth of such territory. The channel of the Pequonnock river washing at high tide as far back as Knowlton street, quietly flowed from Noble's bridge around a sharp point much inside of the present position of the dock at the elbow of Knowlton street. From the bank above it of about twenty feet in height, the slopes of which were covered by a thin growth of evergreen and deciduous trees, there was an unobstructed outlook over the harbor, Golden Hill, the Sound and the Point, which formed a most charming view of land and water. At that time everything was quiet and still as if it were twenty miles from any habitation of man. The channel along this bluff, and especially at the elbow below the railroad bridge, was a famous fishing ground. North of Cedar street there was no dwelling between that street and Old Mill, except a small cottage now standing on the corner of Pembroke and Hamilton streets.

About 1835 the Rev. Birdsey G. Noble bought the fifty acres of Senator Wright and the year after he applied to the General Assembly for a bridge charter across the harbor from this property. It was originally intended to put the bridge across where now the Centre bridge stands, but such was the determined opposition by the people, kindled by the fear of creating uptown and downtown communities, like Norwalk and Old Well—now South Norwalk—on a promise of aid from the then owners of the property now occupied by the Grannis and Hurd lumber company, it was concluded to build the bridge at its present location. The promise of aid was never fulfilled, but Noble's bridge was built on its present site as a toll bridge and so continued for many years. The next year, and for a year or two afterwards, an effort was made by the Rev. Mr. Noble and his son, William H. Noble, to get a charter for an extension of East Washington





EAST BRIDGEFORT IN 1852.

avenue through nearly on the line of Barnum avenue, to Washington bridge, on the Housatonic river. This effort was bitterly and successfully opposed at every trial by the town of Bridgeport, the town of Stratford and the old or lower bridge company, that bridge being a toll bridge. This opposition isolated that district from commercial connections and no improvement was made upon it until in 1836 William P. Green, of Norwich, through the agency of his brother abolitionist, Mr. Jocelyn, of New Haven, made a purchase of some seventy acres belonging to Benjamin Brooks. On this he commenced the improvement that is known as Walter and Green streets, building a few small houses. He also built a dwelling for his agent, George Walter, whom he placed on the property just north of Arctic street on Pembroke.

After this no improvements were made in East Bridgeport until the death of the Rev. B. G. Noble, in 1849, when the above mentioned fifty acres and the bridge property came into the hands of William H. Noble as creditor of his father's estate. On taking the title of this property he applied to the next Legislature for a foot bridge charter, to follow the line of the railroad across the harbor, and after great opposition from the town of Bridgeport and the old bridge company, secured the same and permission from the railroad company to attach this bridge along the line of their track. He built the bridge in 1850. This was the first advance towards all the improvements that have taken place in that part of the city of Bridgeport. It opened a short and easy route for laborers and those who wanted dwellings in any part of that district. Lewis Curtis, Ali Andrews and others owning property on the upper borders of the Yellow Mill Pond at once cut their fields into streets and building lots and offered them for sale, thus laying the foundations for their fortunes. William H. Noble had mapped all his land into streets and building lots as they now stand, with the exceptions of a few alterations. A few lots were sold from the map, and among the rest a piece to Carmi Hart of nearly an acre, which now forms a part of the triangle between Sterling street and Crescent avenue, where he built a foundry for the manufacture of railroad car wheels. This was the first industry established upon that side of the harbor, but it was from that time an obstruction to all improvements in that part of the town until the foundry was torn down.

The Hon. P. T. Barnum saw Mr. Noble's advertisements and decided to join him in the development of that real estate district. He purchased an undivided half of the property, and agreed to furnish the money to buy as much more land as might be deemed expedient, he to own three-quarters and Mr. Noble one-quarter of all that should be purchased. This bargain occupied about fifteen minutes at the Museum in New York, and it was put into writing, occupying about half a letter sheet, and Mr. Noble came home with about \$20,000 in his pocket, and with it was purchased eventually nearly the whole area between Berkshire road and Sheldon street, Pembroke Lake, Church street and its extension, and Burroughs street. A new map of this property was made, Washington Park was laid out into its present shape and devoted to public use, the ground now occupied by the M. E. Church at the northwest corner of the park was given to that society with a donation in money, for a church. At that time sites were offered to any denomination that would erect a church, but the above was the only one that embraced the offer. Crescent avenue to the mill-pond and all the other streets were graded, trees were planted on all the streets as they now stand throughout East Bridgeport; houses, stores and manufactories were built. In

1852 a charter was obtained for the center bridge, running from the foot of William street across the harbor and over the Housatonic railroad to where Middle street now extends. The bridge—which was a draw bridge with a covered foot-way, as indicated in the accompanying cut, was built by Messrs. Barnum and Noble at a cost of \$16,000, being a toll bridge until bought by the city.

The first building put up by Barnum and Noble was the coach factory on William street, which was recently torn down. It was a very conspicuous object on the landscape in its day. The next was a sash and blind factory, the chimney of which—the original structure having been burned—is now used by Mr. James House in his manufactory. About a dozen houses were located on different parts of the property, and all this was done in about a year. Soon after a clock company was organized and a building erected for them on ground given by Barnum and Noble, on the site where the present eastern building of the Wheeler and Wilson company stands. The company not meeting with success, Mr. Barnum was induced by fraudulent representations, to replace them by the Jerome Clock Company of New Haven, to whom he gave, in his effort to sustain them, his endorsements to the amount of \$400,000. This, for a time, put an end to Mr. Barnum's improvements in Bridgeport, but soon after the Wheeler and Wilson company finding this great empty building, purchased and fitted it for their use. From this time dates the great prosperity and growth of Bridgeport. It not only brought new business to the toilers of the city, but also a lot of new inhabitants, men of vigorous mind and liberal enterprise, and a class of educated, skilled mechanics, unequaled anywhere in the country. Through the influence of this manufactory upon the fortunes of Bridgeport, the city has been enabled to take the lead in all enterprises of an industrial character, and to constantly enlarge and multiply the structures occupied by their workers. It brought in such men as Nathaniel Wheeler, J. D. Alvord, William H. Perry, George W. Bacon, S. C. Kingman, Frederick Hurd, Albert Eames, Isaac Holden and a number of others, later, who have been intimately associated, not only with the Wheeler and Wilson industry, but with the enterprise and improvements of Bridgeport, and the advent of new industries. They have been a power, pushing Bridgeport into prominence and prosperity and giving it fame throughout the land.

The entanglement of Mr. Barnum with the Jerome Clock company compelled a division of the property held in partnership by him and Gen. Noble, and Mr. Barnum's portion was immediately mortgaged to cover his liabilities. His struggle to rid himself of this trouble is a memorable financial feat, surpassed by few persons in the country. During the time he was accomplishing this Mr. Noble continued to work for the advance of East Bridgeport. In one way and another two hotels were built; one which was burned and the Staples House, now the Pequonnock Hotel, in the place of it, and the brick block opposite to it, and many other houses. The crisis of 1857, and the agitations of the public mind previous to the war put an end, for the time, to progress in East Bridgeport, except that which resulted from the great industry of the Wheeler and Wilson company which rapidly increased in every direction. Then Mr. Barnum recovered the control of his property, and even during the war of the rebellion there was no retrograde tendency.

Elias Howe, Jr., was brought to Bridgeport through the Wheeler and Wilson company, and before the war, had purchased Mr. Barnum's "Iranistan." Full of patriotism, he became a soldier in the 17th Conn.—the regiment that was com-



manded by Col. Wm. H. Noble—as long as his weak legs could carry him. When he returned he purchased of Mr. Barnum a large tract of what was called the Burroughs property, and on it erected the Howe Sewing Machine Factory, and afterward bought additional land of Mr. Noble upon which he erected the present main shop, as illustrated on page 273.

Since the war great additions have been made to the original layout of East Bridgeport by the purchase of the town property, where the old Alms House stood on William street, by Mr. Barnum; and of the Stillman, Lathrop and Stewart estates by Messrs. N. Wheeler and W. H. Perry, extending the area to the Huntington road and Old Mill Green. This had been laid in streets by those proprietors.

The Old Mill Green—now Pembroke Green—is being constructed into a public park including about 20 acres. Noble street has been changed to Noble avenue and extended to Beardsley Park. This tract of about 150 acres was accepted by the city on the gift of Mr. James W. Beardsley, the title to the whole being conditioned upon the outlay of \$30,000 upon it by the city within ten years. An expenditure of about \$12,000 has already shaped its fields and knolls into a picturesque landscape and is fast becoming one of the famous parks of this Park City.

In addition to the industries already mentioned as located in East Bridgeport, there have been established, the great Union Metallic Cartridge Company, the Bridgeport Brass Company, the Winchester Arms Company, the Hotchkiss Manufacturing Company, and later, the Glover Sanford Sons Hat Company, the Silver Steel, now the Farist Steel Works, the Armstrong Factory, and various cutlery works and several smaller enterprises, which make East Bridgeport, alone, a great manufacturing city. Then, also, West Stratford, a borough adjoining East Bridgeport, is the result of these industries, and will soon become a part of the city of Bridgeport.

About 1870, the old "Point Burying Ground" as it was called—quite an old place of burial—made way for the march of improvements and the relics were transferred to the Pembroke Cemetery. This old ground was located between Maple and Arctic, and East Main and Pembroke streets.

The highways, named Barnum and Noble avenues, were named after the original proprietors. Noble avenue has recently been extended to Beardsley Park, and Barnum avenue will eventually be extended direct to Washington bridge on the Housatonic river. William, Harriet, Clarence, Ogden and Sheldon streets were named for General Noble and his family, and Brooks street for the General's father-in-law, Benjamin Brooks, who at one time owned nearly all the land between Pembroke Lake and Pembroke street, East Washington avenue and Sheldon street, which was called by him Cow Park. Caroline, Helen and Pauline streets were named for Mr. Barnum's daughters, and Hallet street for their mother's maiden name. Sterling street was named for Charles F. Sterling, the brother-in-law and law partner of General Noble, a Bridgeport man of marked talent and literary ability. Jane street should be Jaynes street as it was named after Bishop Jaynes of the M. E. Church, at the wish of a gentlemen who bought the first lots on that street. Kossuth street was named in honor of the Hungarian patriot, who about that time was in this country. Knowlton street was named in honor of Wm. S. Knowlton, the builder of the original and present Center bridge, the first railroad foot bridge and the docks now occupied by Messrs. Wheeler and



Howes. Walter and Green streets were named for Mr. Green and his agent, George Walter, who established a small colony on those streets. From Mr. Walter the Walterville district takes its name. Burroughs and Howe streets were named for Isaac Burroughs and Elias Howe, Jr., the successive proprietors of the contiguous land.

The first church established in East Bridgeport was the old St. Mary's Church, in 1852, the wooden structure still standing on Crescent avenue, and now used as a parish school. On October 14, 1877, the new St. Mary's, on Pembroke street, was dedicated. Next, on September 12, 1853, the Washington Park M. E. Church was organized, and the edifice built, that year, aided by a donation of the lot and \$500, from Messrs. Barnum and Noble. It was rebuilt in 1867, and again in 1883. St. Paul's Church was organized at the house of General Noble, June 4, 1858, and named by Mrs. Noble. Worship was held for a time in various places, and the corner stone of the present edifice was laid October 6, 1868, by Bishop Williams. The Park Street Congregational Church was organized January 15, 1868, and held its services in Bethesda chapel until October 17, 1871, when its present place of worship was erected. The East Washington avenue Baptist Church was organized January 30, 1874, and bought the Bethesda chapel which it has used since, for a place of worship. The Advent Christian Church, organized in 1849, holds its services in East Bridgeport; and the West Stratford churches and missions owe their existence to the growth of "New Pasture Point."

Of the older portion of New Pasture Point, but little is said here, because its settlement antedates that of the town of Bridgeport, and has been particularly described heretofore in this book.

The beauty of this whole region, of old and East Bridgeport, was admirably described by Dr. Timothy Dwight, President of Yale College in his "Travels in New England," in 1815. He says: "There is not in the State (of Connecticut) a prettier village than the borough of Bridgeport. In the year 1783, there were scarcely half a dozen houses in this place. It now contains probably more than one hundred, built on both sides of Pughquonnuck river, a beautiful mill stream forming at its mouth the harbor of Bridgeport. The situation of this village is very handsome, particularly on the eastern side of the river. A more cheerful and elegant piece of ground can scarcely be imagined than the point which stretches between the Pughquonnuck and the old mill brook, and the prospects presented by the harbors at the mouth of these streams, the sound and the surrounding country are, in a fine season, gay and brilliant, perhaps, without a parallel."

Gen. William Henry Noble, son of the Rev. Birdsey Glover and Charlotte (Sanford) Noble, was born in the home-
stead of his grandfather, John Sanford, Esq., of Newtown, Conn., on the 18th of August, 1813. His father was then, and for fifteen years after, rector of Christ Church, Middletown, having been graduated at Yale in the class of 1810, and studied theology at the General Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York City. On his father's side Wm. H. Noble was descended from Thomas Noble of Westfield, Mass.,



W. C. Coker

through John, the pioneer of New Milford, and seven generations of his family lie side by side in the old burial ground in the southern part of New Milford; on his mother's side, from the Sanfords of Newtown, descended from the pioneers of Connecticut.

His early education was completed at the celebrated military school of Capt. Alden Partridge, U. S. A., formerly a superintendent at West Point, which stood at Middletown, Conn., on the grounds now occupied by the Wesleyan University. There during four years he received general literary and scientific instruction with the rudiments of a military education. As a boy, with the cadets of this school he carried his musket in the ranks of the procession which celebrated in New York city the 50th Anniversary of American Independence.

His father having become one of the founders and trustees of Washington (now Trinity) College, Hartford, he entered the freshman class there at the age of 15, remained until the springtime of the sophomore year and left to join the sophomore class of Yale, from which college he was graduated in the class of 1832 with honors. After a short interval he took the school of the Rev. Ambrose Todd, of Stamford, and there remained for a year and a half, an inmate of his family.

He came to Bridgeport early in 1834 as a teacher of French and Spanish in the School of his father, who occupied for that purpose the house on Golden Hill, now owned by the Rev. G. B. Day—but very soon entered the law office of Judge Joseph Wood as a student, and was admitted to the bar of Fairfield county in 1836. In that year he was instrumental in securing the charter of the city of Bridgeport and the charter of the Housatonic Railroad Company, and was Secretary of that company for a number of years.

For several years he was Clerk of the Courts in Fairfield county, and in 1839 married Harriet Jones, daughter of Benjamin Brooks, Esq., of Bridgeport. In 1846 he was State's Attorney for Fairfield county. In 1850 he was nominated by the Democratic party for Congress, but his large majority in Fairfield county was offset by the adverse vote of Litchfield county.

At about this date he began the laying-out of East Bridgeport, a fuller account of which is given in the history of that enterprise in this volume. In this work he was actively employed for the next ten years, building, or assisting to build houses, hotels and factories, and laying out and grading the streets, and setting the trees which line them, throughout. Sharing in the expense of building or repairing all the bridges which connect it with the city proper — and aiding with money, or land, or influence, the first churches which established themselves there. He purchased and rebuilt the old Bridgeport Bridge, erecting the first covered foot-way on the same, and built, at his own expense, the first railroad foot-bridge in 1851. In 1852, with Hon. P. T. Barnum he dedicated Washington Park to public use.

During this period in 1853 he purchased the charter of the Bridgeport Water Company in behalf of Nathaniel Greene and his associates, who carried out the undertaking. This enterprise, becoming complicated with Mr. Greene's other affairs, fell into the hands of its bond-holders, for whom in 1857 Mr. Noble obtained a grant of incorporation under the name of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, under which charter the water supply of the city is now procured. He was a commissioner of both companies and sanctioned their bonds issued.

In 1856 he was instrumental, with Francis Ives, Esq., in disentangling the affairs of the Jerome Clock Company and Mr. Barnum, to admit of the Wheeler and Wilson Manufacturing Company getting possession of, and title to, the property of the Clock Company, and their subsequent removal from Watertown to Bridgeport. The effort was resisted through the timidity of those who had interest in the Clock Company's property, and who were, only after the greatest difficulty, convinced that their own interests and the interests of the public were all concerned in risking a great deal to bring the greater industry to Bridgeport.

In 1860, as a Douglas Democrat, he took a prominent part in the organization of the Union Party in Connecticut, the election of Gov. Buckingham, and the support of all war measures. In 1862, at the recommendation of the principal



loyal men of Fairfield county, he was commissioned by Gov. Buckingham as Colonel of the 17th Conn. Vols. Gov. Buckingham was persuaded to allow it to be distinctively a Fairfield county regiment, and to rendezvous at Bridgeport, where it occupied the grounds now constituting the prominent and main portion of Seaside Park, which was called Camp Aiken, after Gen. Wm. A. Aiken, then Quartermaster-General of the State.

Colonel Noble received his commission on the 22d of July, 1862. Within thirty days a thousand men were ready for the front. They were mustered into the United States service on the 28th of August and left for the front on the 3d of September, with directions to report to General Wool at Baltimore for further orders. This period was that, following the second Bull Run disaster, when Lee was threatening the communications with Washington. Colonel Noble's regiment was therefore detained and put into Fort Marshall, defenses of Baltimore. About the 15th of October they were sent to Fort Kearney, defenses of Washington, and on the 5th of November ordered into the field at Gainesville, Va., with Sigel's Corps, with which in December they were sent as a reserve to support Burnside at Fredericksburg. During the winter the regiment was severely taxed by marches and counter-marches, but finally settled down into winter quarters at Brooks' Station, Va., until the Chancellorsville campaign.

At the battle of Chancellorsville Colonel Noble's regiment, with the rest of the corps under General O. O. Howard, formed the extreme right wing of the army under General Hooker, in the battle of May 2d, 1863. The resolution with which they withstood the terrible onslaught of Stonewall Jackson on that day has gone into history; Horace Greeley, in his "American Conflict," mentions their brave and hopeless rally in the face of defeat and retreat all about them. Just after this rally Colonel Noble was wounded, having the main artery of his left arm cut off by a minie ball, being struck on the left knee by a fragment of shell, and having his horse shot under him. He was led fainting from the field; the fortunate clogging of the artery prevented his bleeding



to death, but circulation having stopped in the lower arm he only saved his arm from immediate amputation, at the field hospital where he was taken, by insisting upon waiting to see Surgeon Robert Hubbard of his own regiment. Surgeon Hubbard found a slight pulse, said the arm could be saved but ordered him immediately to Washington, whence he received a furlough home for twenty days. At the end of this time, not having recovered sufficiently to go into the field, his furlough was extended for a like term. About five days before its termination, hearing of the threatened invasion of Lee which terminated at Gettysburg, he reported at Washington for directions to reach his regiment; none could be given and he was ordered to report daily for instructions, which he did for some ten days before any direction was given by which he might reach his command, such was the ignorance at Washington concerning the relative position of the two armies. Having procured a horse to replace that killed at Chancellorsville, through an order of Quartermaster-General Meigs, and the wagon train which he anticipated joining having been captured just out of Washington, he was finally directed by the authorities there to report to General Schenck, at Baltimore, for instructions as to his chances of reaching the army. On reporting to General Schenck, who knew, apparently, as little of the exact position of the two armies as was known at Washington, he was directed to take train for Westminster the next morning. The train was two days reaching Westminster, only twenty-two miles, so blockaded was the railroad with the transportation of government stores. On the way the officers who were striving to reach their commands found that the battle had commenced, for by putting their ears to the ground or rock the thud of a heavy cannonading was heard. At Westminster Colonel Noble started on his ride to Gettysburg with General Hayes, of the brigade in which was the fourteenth Connecticut, Captain, afterwards General, Graham, of the artillery, and an assistant surgeon of the 144th N. Y. They rode most of the day to the sound of cannon and reached the battle-field about five o'clock in the afternoon. On arrival Colonel Noble found himself in command of the brigade, General Adelbert Ames having

taken command of the division in place of General Francis Barlow, severely wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Fowler, of his regiment, had been killed, Major Brady wounded and many of its rank and file killed, wounded or captured, but a brave remnant remained guarding the declivity of Cemetery Hill. The battle was then nearing its close, there being only one severe engagement that night. Early the next morning the brigade commanded by Colonel Noble was advanced into the town of Gettysburg to clear out the enemy's sharpshooters and was afterwards stationed at the foot of Cemetery Hill until the commencement of the march after Lee, which was continued into Virginia.

At Catlett's station Colonel Noble's regiment with the rest of the brigade was ordered to South Carolina to reinforce the troops under General Gilmore at the siege of Charleston and Wagner, and took transport for Folly Island, S. C., in August, 1863. On the day of his arrival Colonel Noble was ordered to take command of a thousand men in the trenches before Wagner, while his regiment, with the rest of the brigade, immediately went into camp on Folly Island as a reserve force in case of a sally from Wagner upon the siege approaches. Colonel Noble, in command of his regiment or other forces, was several times in the trenches during the siege and found his duty, under fire night and day, the most trying of his military life.

He volunteered, with the other colonels of Ames' brigade, to make a night assault upon Fort Sumter, which was never ordered because the navy claimed the honor of making the attack as their right. An account of this is given in General George H. Gordon's War Diary.

After the fall of Fort Wagner the regiment was ordered to Florida and stationed first at Jacksonville, where Colonel Noble commanded a brigade, and was then sent to relieve the 10th Connecticut, at St. Augustine, which post the regiment held during its after service, garrisoning the town and the old Spanish fort of San Marco.

In Florida Colonel Noble was placed in command of the district comprising all of Florida east of the St. John's River, with headquarters at St. Augustine. While occupying this

position he was in command of brigades in various raids in different parts of Florida, breaking up Confederate recruiting stations and drilling camps, and on various expeditions under Generals Birney, Gordon, Hatch, and others. On December 24, 1864, he was captured by rebel guerillas while crossing to St. Augustine from Jacksonville, where he had been summoned as a witness on a court martial, and although every effort was made by the forces in East Florida to recapture him, he was taken first to Tallahassee, imprisoned for a while at Macon, Ga., and about the middle of February sent to Andersonville and confined in the officers' prison. They were making every effort to effect their escape when the order for a general exchange of prisoners brought about their release about the middle of April.

Colonel Noble came out with a thousand men fresh from the horrors of the prison pen of Andersonville. They went first to Vicksburg, whence he was ordered east in charge of a thousand of the released Union troops to Annapolis, Md., in June, 1865, and was about that time, by recommendation of General Grant, commissioned by Congress as brigadier-general by brevet. He then returned to Florida to look after his ordnance account, and was mustered out of service with his regiment on the 19th of July, 1865, at Hilton Head, S. C. Thus closed the service of a regiment in whose field, staff and line, or in whose ranks were many of Bridgeport's most honored citizens and of which the Adjutant General of Connecticut in his final report says: "the superior of which in intelligence, morale, courage and endurance was not found in the army."

Every year since its service one or another town of Fairfield County has entertained its veterans at their annual reunions, and in 1884 the regiment erected at Gettysburg a memorial tablet to those of its number who fell in that battle. As chairman of its executive committee General Noble received the monument and submitted it to the care of the Gettysburg Memorial Association, through the vice-president, Judge D. A. Buchler, in the presence of a large concourse of people who had assembled on Barlow's Knoll to witness the unveiling of the monument.



E. P. Rieck

Since the war, although much reduced in health by his three years of hard service, General Noble has followed his profession and filled various public trusts. Has been an alderman or common councilman of the city at various periods, chairman of the board of park commissioners for many years, and member of the Legislature in 1884, in which he was chairman of the military committee of the House and one of the committee of the ceremonies at the unveiling of the statue of Governor Buckingham in the Capitol. In the midst of a busy life he has found time to devote a great deal of attention to horticulture and fruit-growing, having, probably, the largest variety of pears in the State. At the request of the State Pomologist he exhibited specimens of his fruit in the Connecticut collection at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, and in the New Orleans Exposition of 1884-85.

Rev. Ethan Ferris Bishop, son of Alfred and Mary (Ferris) Bishop, was born in Madison, N. J., March 27, 1825, and died in Bridgeport, Conn., December 7, 1883. He entered Yale College in 1845 in the same class with his brother, now the Hon. William D. Bishop, who was some years his junior; but soon relinquished study on account of impaired sight, caused by an accident in his early youth. He acted with his brother in closing the accounts relating to the New York and New Haven, the Naugatuck, and the Washington and Saratoga Railroads, with which their father had been connected. Ethan Ferris Bishop was president of the Naugatuck Railroad from 1851 to 1855, when he resigned and became interested in Western railroads, chiefly the Milwaukee and Chicago, Milwaukee and Watertown, and the Dubuque and Sioux City. At first Hon. William D. Bishop was associated with him in these enterprises, but taking a wide interest in politics he withdrew and became representative of his district in the National Congress, then Commissioner of Patents, while still quite young; was president of the Naugatuck railroad for some time and president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Consolidated road, being quite distinguished in business and political circles.

Ethan Ferris Bishop was admitted to the Connecticut bar in 1851, but never practiced that profession. He then pur-

sued the study of theology, for which he had a natural aptitude. Although of Presbyterian parentage he was advanced in his ideas of churchmanship and showed the bent of his mind in this direction as early as 1843 or 4, when eighteen years of age, he then being a member of the Bridgeport Lyceum, took part in a discussion of Catholicity against Protestantism, on the side of Catholicity, with such earnestness as to leave no doubt in the minds of the audience—made up partly of ladies, who were admitted at that time—what his true opinions were. Among the speakers who took the side of Protestantism were the Rev. Bronson B. Beardsley, of Bridgeport, and Hon. Henry B. Graves, of Litchfield, Conn.

Mr. E. F. Bishop was president of the Naugatuck railroad at the time of his death and had just resigned that of the Bridgeport Steamboat Company, which he had held for many years. He was a member of Hamilton Commandery, St. John's Lodge of F. and A. M., Jerusalem Council and Jerusalem Chapter, R. A. M.

Rev. Nathaniel Bouton, an apprentice to Stiles Nichols, a printer of Bridgeport. He was converted under the labors of Mr. Peter Lockwood, then a student at Yale. Through the efforts of Mr. Lockwood and his father, Lambert Lockwood, the time of Mr. Bouton was bought of his employer and he, by the help of friends and great perseverance, fitted for college. During vacations he, like Mr. P. Lockwood, engaged in holding meetings and aiding ministers in the neighboring towns. "Upon leaving the theological seminary he accepted a call to the first church of Concord, N. H., and continued the faithful and beloved pastor of that church for forty-two years. His influence was widely spread and his labors abundantly blessed, and it may be said that the Rev. J. P. Gulliver, D.D., ascribes his conversion to a sermon of Dr. Bouton's, preached from the text, 'Choose ye this day whom ye will serve.'" This sermon was known by Dr. Bouton to have been the direct means of the conversion of no less than eighty-three persons.¹¹

Captain John Brooks, of Bridgeport, was induced to attend the meetings held by Peter Lockwood, a student in

¹¹ Memorial of Rev. Peter Lockwood, 21.

theology, by which his life was changed and he became a different man, zealous for the interests of the church. He was firm and resolute in his adherence to evangelical doctrines, giving liberally of his increasing wealth, and in the latter part of his life he aided much in building a church in a new part of the city of Bridgeport. Upon this building being destroyed by fire he rebuilt it largely at his own expense.¹²

Major Frederick Frye was the son of Daniel M. Frye, Esq., of New York City, grandson of Capt. Frederick Frye and great-grandson of Colonel James Frye of Andover, Mass., who died from wounds received at the battle of Bunker Hill; and he was thus the last of a race of citizen soldiers who had taken active and honorable part in the wars of the last century and a half in this country. At the breaking out of the late war Major Frye was practicing law in Bridgeport in company with General W. H. Noble. He immediately enlisted, serving as a Captain in the Third Connecticut Volunteers through the first campaign and afterwards raised a company for the Ninth regiment with which he served as Captain and Major. He served with honor through the war and at its close settled in New Orleans where he resumed the practice of the law, being at one time Justice of the Sixth District of that city. Failing health at length compelled him to abandon the profession, and he took a clerkship in the Custom House, which he filled at the time of his death, June 22d, 1881. Major Frye was graduated at Columbia college, New York, was a man of culture and attainments, of manly character and genial disposition and was greatly beloved by his many friends. He was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati and preserved unsullied the enviable record of his ancestors.¹³ He married Matilda, daugh-

¹² Memorial of Rev. Peter Lockwood, 22.

¹³ The following article from the Bridgeport "Standard" of April 30th, 1861, gives an account of an affair in which Major Frye was an important actor:

One of the most interesting occasions which we have ever known in Bridgeport, occurred last evening at Washington Hall. Company D, 3d Regiment, Conn. Volunteers, were marched into the crowded hall at 7½ o'clock, and a public presentation took place of the following articles from the ladies of Bridgeport: A sword and belt and pair of epaulets to Captain Frye, and Lieutenant's epaulets to the two Lieutenants of the Company—from Samuel Baldwin, Esq., a

ter of the late Benjamin Brooks of Bridgeport, who survived him, with two daughters, Mrs. George C. Waldo of Bridgeport, and Mrs. J. W. Hillman of Hope Villa, Louisiana. He was fifty-seven years of age at the time of his death. Major Frye left no brother but he had three sisters, Mrs. J. E. Rockwell of Staten Island, Mrs. Geo. K. Sistare of New York City, and Mrs. Hanford Lyon of Bridgeport.

The Ancient Commissions granted to James Frye¹⁴ under George the 2d and George the 3d, by Phipps, Shirley and

revolver to Captain Frye. A revolver was also presented to Orderly Sergeant Doane and some other articles to other members of the Company. The presentation address was made by H. T. Blake, Esq., and Captain Frye and his officers happily responded, after which Rev. Mr. Thompson addressed the Volunteers in some appropriate and eloquent remarks. Captain Frye who leaves a large and excellent law practice in this city, and a most interesting family, in order to serve his country, comes of a gallant and distinguished lineage, his ancestors for five generations back having served as officers in the various wars of our country's history.

In 1698, James Frye served as Captain in the Massachusetts troops against the Indians. In 1744, his son, James Frye, was present as a Lieutenant from Massachusetts at the capture of Louisburg, and was afterwards Colonel in the "Old French Wars." An original draft of the terms of the capitulation of Louisburg is still in the possession of the family. In 1775, *his* son, James Frye, was present as Colonel at the battle of Bunker Hill, and with him there was *his* son, Frederick Frye (then 18 years of age), who afterwards received a Lieutenant's commission in the Revolutionary Army. The latter was in command at Governor's Island during the War of 1812, and his son, Daniel M. Frye, father of the present Captain Frye, served as captain in the same war. We had the pleasure of examining last evening the *original commissions* that were issued to these gallant men bearing the autographs of Wm. Stoughton, Wm. Shirley, John Hancock, Joseph Warren, Geo. Washington and others. We were also shown the badge and certificate of the Order of Cincinnati, received by Lieutenant Frye in 1784, and of which order Captain Frye is at present a member. This certificate is signed by Geo. Washington, who was president of the society at the time it was issued. One of the epaulets worn by Colonel Frye at the battle of Bunker Hill was also exhibited. Captain Frye has raised his company by his own exertions, and left with them this morning for Hartford. He is followed by the warm regards of a host of friends, and from our own knowledge of his many noble and manly qualities, we feel assured that he will approve himself a worthy representative of his illustrious ancestry.

¹⁴ The Salem, Mass., "Gazette," in an issue during 1875 makes the following allusion to the Frye family :

Colonel James Frye.—One of the Heroes of Bunker Hill.

Among the notices which have been made of the recent celebration in Boston, the name of Colonel Frye is simply given, while many who bore a far less impor-



Harrison Gray, his commission as Colonel of Continental Troops, signed by Joseph Warren just before the battle of Bunker Hill, and another signed by John Hancock the week after the battle, the epaulet worn at the battle by Colonel Frye, the draft of the capitulation of Louisburg, the certificate of membership in the Order of the Cincinnati signed by Washington and Knox, Major Frederick Frye's service sword, the sword presented to him by the ladies of Bridgeport, as related below, his commissions in the Federal army, etc., etc., are, with many other family documents and relics, in possession of George C. Waldo, of Bridgeport, son-in-law of Major Frye.

Hon. Epaphras Burr Goodsell was born in Brookfield, Conn., near the close of the year 1817, and his early education was obtained in the schools of that town. At the age of thirteen he left home to make his own way in the

tant part in the first great battle of the Revolution have been made the subject of special and extended notice.

In Alden Bradford's account of the battle of Bunker Hill, referring to the officers who particularly distinguished themselves by their activity, zeal and courage, he says: "We may justly name General Israel Putnam, Colonel William Prescott, Ebenezer Bridge, *James Frye*, and Moses Little," etc. Why the name of Colonel Frye should have been wholly omitted in the historical notices and orations of the present celebration can only be accounted for by the fact that none of his family are now around Boston to call attention to his history.

He was the fourth in his line who had held office and done service in the old Continental armies during the French and Indian wars. His ancestors had settled in New England early in the 17th century and the family lived in Salem and afterwards in Andover, where was a famous elm which stood near the mansion, long known as the Frye tree. When the war of the Revolution began, Colonel Frye at once placed himself and his soldiers at the service of his country, and was called into action at the battle of Bunker Hill. Here he received a wound which resulted in his death about three months after. But although his career was thus early terminated his name and family continued to be represented in the army. On the night before the battle, his son, Frederick Frye, then a mere youth, accompanied him to the field as a volunteer, and for his bravery was shortly after promoted to a captaincy, in which capacity he served during the war. Captain Frye afterwards had command at Governor's Island in New York harbor, and at Fort Mifflin. He died in the city of New York at the residence of his son, D. M. Frye, Esq., about the year 1830. His grandson, Frederick Frye, named after him, enlisted in the army at the first call for volunteers during the late civil war, served as captain in the battle of Bull Run, and during the rest of the war was major of the 9th Connecticut regiment. He was the sixth in his line who had been in the army.

world. He became a merchant and was a manufacturer of iron furnaces, in the town of Kent, was interested in the furnace at Bull's Bridge, and at one time was postmaster. About 1848 he came to Bridgeport and soon his interest in public affairs brought him prominently forward as a politician, and he was appointed in 1852 postmaster of this city by President Franklin Pierce, serving four years, and again in 1856 by President Buchanan, holding the office until the accession of President Lincoln—eight years in all. He was popular and efficient, and his office was excellently conducted. He was mayor of the city in 1871-72-73, and filled many minor city offices. He was one of the founders of Trinity Episcopal Church, was long a Vestryman, and at the time of his death was its Junior Warden. Mr. Goodsell died October 10th, 1884, at Brookfield Center, in the house in which he was born. Through life he had manifested a strong attachment for his birthplace, and seemed happiest while among the objects which brought to his mind memories of it. In maturity this feeling grew stronger and he decided to improve and embellish the place, which he did, afterwards repairing there each successive season. It became known as the Goodsell House, and many a city-seeker for pleasure has been charmed by its situation and natural beauties.

Mr. Goodsell was a man of genial temperament, kind, considerate and hospitable, and possessed a host of friends. He had seen Bridgeport grow from a little village to a large city and had taken an active and honorable part in its development. A self-made man, working up from small beginnings and limited opportunities, he secured the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens and was honored for his excellent character as a man, his fidelity in every public trust, and his consistent illustration of the faith which he professed. His family consisted of his wife, four sons, Zalmon, Granville W., Perry S. and E. B. Goodsell, Jr., and one daughter, Mrs. Samuel S. Banks, all of Bridgeport.¹⁵

¹⁵ *The Goodsell family*.—R. B. Lacey, Esq., President of the Fairfield County Historical Society, furnishes the following record of the family of the Hon. E. B. Goodsell: Epaphras Burr Goodsell was *fifth* in descent from the first or original settler of the Goodsell name in this country, from whom a very numerous and worthy family has descended. Thomas Goodsell, of Wales, emigrated from Liver-



Robt. Hubbard M.D.

Robert Hubbard, M.D., was born in upper Middletown, now the town of Cromwell, Conn., April 27, 1826, being the son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Hubbard. His father was a sea captain for many years in the West India trade, but finally left the sea and gave his whole time to the cultivation of his farm. He was descended from a prominent line of the Hubbard family which came to Boston about 1634, and afterwards removed to the vicinity of Hartford or Middletown. The mother of Robert Hubbard was Elizabeth Roberts, whose father was a farmer of Middletown, Conn., and whose land possessions included the beautiful site now occupied by the Connecticut Hospital for the Insane.

Robert Hubbard was reared on the farm, attending public school winters, as was the custom at the time, until he was seventeen years of age, when he entered the academy at Cromwell, Conn., Mr. Jared O. Knapp—afterwards a clergyman—being principal, and whose special favor was of great value to the young student, who gave every energy to the improvement of his opportunities for education, during the two succeeding years, employing his vacations on the farm and in other ways to replenish the continued depleted treasury. At the end of three years he had prepared himself, and entered Yale College in 1846. At the end of the Freshman year he was offered the position of principal in the Durham Academy, which he accepted intending to return to college after securing funds for that purpose. During the first year in the academy he continued his college studies, but was then induced by Doct. Benjamin Fowler to enter upon a course of medical study, and at the end of the second year in the academy he entered Doctor Fowler's office as a medical student. From the first he manifested peculiar aptness in this study, and hence success in it was no difficult attainment. At the end of one year with Doctor Fowler, he removed to New Haven and entered the office of Doct. Nathan B. Ives, where he continued his studies, and also attended Medical lectures at Yale College, where he was graduated in 1851, as Valedictorian of his class.

In the autumn of 1851 he settled in Bridgeport as a physician and hung his sign in the shutter of a drug store in Wall

street and boarded with Capt. Hinman, then proprietor of the City Hotel. He rapidly secured friends and an established practice and in May, 1854, formed a co-partnership with Doct. David H. Nash, which continued successfully for seventeen years. On April 25, 1855, he married Cornelia Boardman, youngest daughter of Sherman and Sophia Hartwell, and they have one son and two daughters, all residents of Bridgeport.

In 1861, upon recommendation of the State Medical Society, he was appointed by Governor Buckingham one of the eight Medical Examiners of Surgeons and assistant Surgeons for regiments raised in this State. In 1862 he was commissioned Surgeon of the 17th Regiment, Conn. Volunteer Infantry. After a few months service in this capacity he was promoted to be Surgeon of brigade under General Howard and shortly before the battle of Chancellorsville was promoted to be Surgeon of General Devon's division. For meritorious conduct at Chancellorsville he was again promoted to Medical Inspector—assistant medical director—on his staff. At the battle of Gettysburg he served as Medical Director in charge of the 11th corps, after which he joined his regiment at Collett's Station, Va. When the 11th corps was ordered to Lookout Mountain he again served as its Medical Director under General Hooker and in that capacity took part in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Ringold. Shortly after this campaign he was forced, on account of ill health, to resign his commission and return to his practice at Bridgeport. In 1870 a severe attack of sciatica impelled him to spend some months in Germany. In 1871, his wife, Mrs. Hubbard, died, and the same year his partnership with Doctor Nash was dissolved. In 1874 and also in 1876 he represented the city of Bridgeport in the General Assembly, and twice he was nominated on the republican ticket for the 4th Congressional district. In 1879 he was elected president of the Connecticut Medical Society. In 1883, he spent the summer in European travel, and again in 1885 he went abroad for a short time. Doctor Hubbard, notwithstanding his thirty-five years of constant labor in his profession is still engaged in active labor as a physician.



CVB Hall



William B. Hall, son of Wm. Stewart Hall, formerly of Wallingford, is a native of Springfield, Mass. He began his mercantile life as clerk in the store of T. P. Chapman of New Haven, on the 15th day of July, 1846, which gives him just forty years of experience in business life. Mr. T. P. Chapman's wife was the daughter of Sherman Hartwell, of Bridgeport, and hence began Mr. Hall's acquaintance in this city, to which he came after serving four years at

pool, Eng., to this country about 1678. His name first appears in the records of Branford, or East Haven, Conn., 1679. In 1705 he was taxed on £128 estate. In 1708-9 on £157—the highest on the list of that town. He was a prominent and influential man. In 1679, at the age of thirty-three years, he married Sarah Hemingway. Their sons were Samuel, born 1685; Rev. Thomas, born 1702, and Rev. John, born December 21, 1705. John was educated at Yale College, married in 1724 Mary Lewis, of Stratford (Old Mill) and was settled as the first minister of the Church of Christ on Greenfield Hill (Fairfield) at its organization in May, 1726. This was his only settlement. His ashes repose in the Greenfield Cemetery under the slab with this simple inscription:

“Here lies buried the body
of the Rev. Mr.
John Goodsell,
who departed this life
December 26th, 1763.
Aged 57 years.”

Rev. John and Mary (Lewis) Goodsell had ten children, of whom Epaphras was the *fifth*, or of the sons the *second*. He married ——— Burr and had six children, three of whom were sons and of whom Zalmon was the youngest. Zalmon married Eliza Cornwall, of Brookfield, Conn., where he spent most of his life and raised a family of two sons and five daughters. Hon. E. B. Goodsell was the second son of Zalmon and was born in 1817, as has been stated, in the same house in which he died.

Captain William Goodsell of Bridgeport was an older brother of Zalmon. He was in the butchering business here in the early part of this century and the pioneer in that line. He lived on Main street where Congress street enters it. His slaughter house stood on the bank in the rear of the present C. W. Fox property extending over tide water supported by high posts. In later years we have heard a great deal about Captain Goodsell's “old slaughter house yard” in the controversies of Mr. Benjamin Ray vs. others as to title of land in that vicinity.

Captain William Goodsell married Prudence Nichols. They had sons—Burr (born 1803), George of New Haven, Conn., William and Henry—and daughters.

Jane married Nathaniel Paddock Crosby.

Elizabeth married William H. Bissett.

Maria married Starr Sherwood.

None survive except Burr, the oldest, who now resides in Hartford.

Burr Goodsell and Pad. Crosby were famous saddlers in the palmy days of that industry, and William H. Bissett a well known harness maker.



New Haven. He engaged in the employ of Messrs. E. Birdsey and Company of Bridgeport, dry goods merchants, where he remained seven years, and then formed a partnership with Mr. David M. Read under the name of Hall and Read, which continued twenty years, and was then dissolved in 1877.

In 1878 Mr. Hall had erected, fitted and arranged specially for his business, the building where he is now located, under the firm name of W. B. Hall and Company, corner of Main and Cannon streets, and although ample at first he has had it twice enlarged, and has a contract made for a third and spacious addition. At present the floor space for the retail department is 130 feet by 90, or including a portion of the basement, 10,500 square feet, in actual use every day. The arrangement of each and every department is very complete, business-like and convenient; but the need of more room is evident on any day of middling favor for shopping. The proprietors' office and the book-keeper's desk are favorable for consultation at any moment required, the well ordered business arrangements being such that it is not necessary for the proprietor to hide out of sight at a distance in order to secure quiet sufficient to conduct the work of the establishment.

This is a first-class dry goods house; the sale of imported goods—specially silks of various styles and qualities—being a large department of the house. Also the sales by mail and express has grown into surprising proportions. It is a matter of credit to Bridgeport that a dry goods house of only eight years standing is now delivering goods in every State in the Union amounting to tens of thousands of dollars; it being a matter of actual history, that Bridgeport, through one of its leading dry goods stores, as well as by its score of mammoth manufacturing houses, is being published in fame all over the great States of the nation, and that the riches of the Republic of America are flowing into it. This may well be called a family dry goods house, because of the great number of families it regularly supplies with merchandise, thousands of dollars' worth of goods being sent to each of a score or more cities in this fam-

ily trade; Chicago, the Queen of the West in commerce, being one of them. The department of ready made ladies goods, especially cloaks and dresses, is very large, two cutters of these goods being constantly employed; and their custom-made work keeps a number of the most thoroughly practiced hands employed steadily. The storage department of the house is a wonder. Here, in the basement of the building, goods, having been bought in large quantities, are kept in stock until wanted in the salesrooms; and each morning the clerks go down and select such goods as they need for sale that day. To build up such a house is a fitting reward, and well worth the steady efforts of any man for forty years, as has been the case with Mr. Hall.

*Rev. Gideon Hawley*¹⁸ son of Gideon and Eunice (Jackson) Hawley, was born in Stratfield, November 5, 1727. His mother died when he was three days old, and his father about three years after. He was graduated at Yale College in 1749, and having early in life resolved to be a missionary to the Indians, was licensed to preach by the Fairfield East Association May 23, 1750, and commenced his missionary career at Stockbridge, Mass., in 1752, under the patronage of the Rev. Jonathan Edwards, then pastor at that place. Here he labored until the next spring when he was sent by "the Commissioners of Indian affairs" at Boston to establish a mission on the Susquehanna among the Iroquois nation. He returned to the East the next year and was ordained as missionary to the Indians, at the Old South meeting house in Boston. Shortly after, he returned to his field of labor on the Susquehanna, at the place called Oughquanga, where he continued until May, 1756, when he was obliged to withdraw from that country on account of the French war.

In 1757, the Commissioners of the society for propagating the Gospel, persuaded him to visit the tribe of Indians at Marshpee. Here he was installed April 10, 1758, and here he passed the residue of his life—nearly half a century—in the most benevolent and self-denying labors for the salvation of the Indians. He died October 3, 1807, aged 80 years.

¹⁸ Sprague's Annals i, 497.



Alfred Charles Hobbs,¹⁷ the third son of John L. Hobbs, was born in Boston, Mass., October 7, 1812. His father, a carpenter and joiner by trade, came from London, England, to Charleston, South Carolina, to do the work on a dwelling house for the governor of that State. His mother came from Welch Pool, a town in Wales, and was living with her brother on Sullivan's Island, near Charleston, where she became acquainted with Mr. Hobbs, and they were married. After the work on this house was completed they removed to Boston, Mass., where he established a shop on Water street, on a part of the land now covered by the Boston post office. The son well remembers, when about three years old, that his father left Boston with a party to settle in Florida, leaving his family to follow as soon as a house could be built. The party landed at Mobile, the father went up the river to St. Stevens, purchased a place and commenced building a house, but died very suddenly before it was finished, leaving his family in Boston destitute. Young Hobbs lived with his mother until ten years of age, going to school occasionally, playing truant quite often, and in many ways trying to earn a few pennies, which went into the grand fund for family support.

In the month of February, 1822, he left Boston with James Fowler, of Westfield, Mass., then a member of the legislature, to do chores and work on the farm, where he found that a Boston boy 100 miles from home was a fit subject for training by all the other boys, but within a month he had tried titles with so many and came off the best that he soon led the van in the frolics and fun of the place. In accomplishing the work he had to do—rising with the sun and milking the cows often after dark—he had learned, at the end of the four years, all he desired to know of farming, and returned to Boston to find another occupation. He obtained a place in a dry goods store in Cornhill, but soon went to learn the trade of wood carving, having an older brother over him. This place did not suit and he tried next a carriage

¹⁷ At a regular meeting of the Fairfield County Historical Society held February 12, 1886, it was, on motion,

"Resolved, That Mr. A. C. Hobbs be and is hereby requested to furnish a sketch of his professional career as an expert with locks, and to furnish his portrait, both to be in the History of Stratford and Bridgeport."



A. C. Hobbs



body maker, but the owner, Mr. Willard, in a short time failed, and this caused another change to the rudiments of carriage painting, which consisted in rubbing off the paint from old carriages with pumice stone and cold water. This employment did not suit and the next proposition was to be a sailor. He secured a position on board the ship *Leonidas*, bound for Charleston, S. C., and thence to Havre, France, but on arriving at Charleston it was decided to return to Boston, which was pleasing news to the would be sailor, as he had enjoyed sufficient of that sort of life before the mast. He then tried tin plate work, and then coach trimming and harness making, which also failed to satisfy, and having arrived at the age of sixteen years he resolved to leave Boston, and therefore went to Sandwich, Mass., and finished an apprenticeship at glass cutting at the Boston and Sandwich glass works. After remaining in that place about eight years he returned to Boston and established the glass cutting business for himself, occupying a part of a building on Bromfield street. One part of this work, the cutting of glass door knobs, and a new method of fastening the knobs into the socket by which they were attached to the locks, was invented and patented by Mr. Hobbs, and this business brought him for the first time in contact with some of the lock makers, and he was finally induced to enter partnership in that business under the name of Jones and Hobbs, but a very short time satisfied him with that enterprise. During this time spent in Boston, which was about five years, he had joined the fire department at the time that the volunteers disbanded because the mayor would not allow them to have their own way, and he assisted in forming the first paid fire department in Boston. The first position he held was clerk of company No. 13, but in consequence of change of residence he left that and joined No. 7, and from that was appointed foreman of No. 1. He was also a member of the Washington Light Guard, doing both fire and military duty. He was also president of the Boston Musical Education Society, and a member of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics Association.

After giving up the firm of Jones and Hobbs an arrangement was made with Edwards and Holman, lock and safe makers, to open a store in New York and sell their locks and

fire proof safes. This arrangement did not prove satisfactory to Mr. Hobbs, but during the time thus employed the construction of locks was carefully studied and those locks that others valued seemed worth but little to him. He soon became acquainted with Day and Newell, the prominent bank lock makers, and made an arrangement with them to take the entire charge of selling their bank locks. In order to succeed in this line it was necessary to prove to bankers that the locks they were using were not secure. Therefore he made a very fine set of tools by which he could demonstrate the proposition that their vaults and safes could be opened. Equipped with a lock and his box of suspicious implements, he made his first call on a bank at Stamford, Conn. They had on their doors what was known as a Jones padlock, which was considered invulnerable. It held an iron strap over the key hole of an Andrew's bank lock, which had cost the bank \$150. In addition they had what is known as a Warded lock, making three locks, any one of which was considered quite secure against being opened without the proper key. Also a supposed secure lock was placed on the outside door of the bank. After a long conversation with the bank directors it was decided that if the lock on the outside of the door and the vault could be opened in two hours without injuring the locks, they would purchase a new lock. Mr. Hobbs then, after examining the key holes, selected a few instruments from his assortment, opened the outside door and the three locks on the vault in twenty-three minutes. No further argument was needed, the new lock was purchased and their vault made secure. This occurred in January, 1847. From that time until 1851 his whole attention and time was occupied in visiting banks, including nearly all in the United States. The following letter is of interest.

“TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, 22 February, 1850.

“We hereby certify that Mr. H. C. Jones sold to the Department one of his best, large, patent combination locks, which was placed on one of the doors of the money vault in this office. Mr. Jones seemed confident that it was impossible for his said lock to be picked, and said many things to prove his confidence in its perfect security. Having become satisfied that Mr. Jones's combination lock had been picked in New York and elsewhere, we lost confidence in the one of his on the vault door, which we reported to the treasurer. The department authorized

the purchase of a lock exhibited by Mr. A. C. Hobbs, agent for 'Day and Newell's Parantoptic Bank Lock.' After the same had been carefully examined by some of our most skillful and competent mechanics it was put upon the vault door in the place before occupied by Mr. Jones's combination lock.

"We further certify that Mr. Hobbs did, without having seen the key or interior, pick and open the said Jones lock without the least injury to the same.

WM. D. NUTT."

In the year 1848 Mr. Hobbs was at the bank of Lancaster, Pa., putting on a lock that he had sold them. As the cashier came in the bank with his morning paper, he said, "Mr. Hobbs, there is something for you," throwing down his New York paper, in which was an advertisement from a Mr. Woodbridge, of Perth Amboy, offering \$500 to any one who would open his lock then on one of Herring's safes in the Merchant's Exchange reading room in New York. Mr. Hobbs said to the cashier, "That is my money." "What," said he, "do you think you can open it?" "Yes," said Mr. Hobbs, "and I leave for New York as soon as I have finished putting on this lock." Away went Mr. Hobbs to New York, found Mr. Woodbridge, saw the lock and safe with a card on the door offering the reward of \$500 to any one who would open the lock in thirty days by any instrument of their own, or he would let them have the use of the key for one dollar per hour, first having the movable bits taken out and distributed. There being twelve bits to the key would give 479,001,600 changes, or different ways of putting the bits together, leaving but one way only that would open the lock. In order to have the test fairly conducted, there were three arbitrators appointed to attend and decide upon the arrangement for the trial. Mr. Woodbridge had unlimited confidence in his lock and thought he knew all about making and opening it. The arbitrators agreed that if Mr. Hobbs did not open the safe he should write a certificate that "He had access to the lock for thirty days and could not open it, and therefore considered it perfectly safe and recommended it to the public." Mr. Woodbridge had a check on the Mechanics' Bank of New York for \$500, signed by his father. This was put in an envelope and placed in the safe, to be the property of the one opening the safe.

Mr. Hobbs then said to Mr. Woodbridge, "You don't own that money. It is a check of your father's, and I do not



want it under such circumstances. Let the arbitrators open the safe, take your check out and give me my certificate, withdraw your advertisement, and call it square. But if you leave it there I will surely take it." Mr. Woodbridge, with a derisive laugh, said, "Go ahead, I will risk it." Mr. Hobbs, knowing the general construction of the lock, had his instruments all made, and arranged with the janitor of the room to have the use of it at night. Mr. Woodbridge had so constructed the lock that if any attempt was made to withdraw the bolt before the tumblers were all in their proper position, any key or instrument that might then be in the key hole could not be withdrawn, and by that means the opening of the lock would be made impossible. After the room was cleared at nine o'clock in the evening Mr. Hobbs began his work on the lock, and at half past eleven had the measurements of the required position of the tumblers all marked out and the bolt ready to be withdrawn. Instead of having anything that could be held in the key hole he had a piece of bent wire with which he could withdraw the bolt, and left the safe in that condition through the night. He called on Mr. Woodbridge quite early in the morning and told him there was some trouble with the lock, and requested him to be at the room by ten o'clock sure. Mr. Woodbridge seemed quite happy and evidently thought his trap had caught something in the lock. Mr. Hobbs also notified the arbitrators to be there at ten o'clock and then returned and sat down by the safe, with the piece of wire hanging out of the key hole, to prevent any one touching it. Sometime before ten o'clock the room began to fill up, and all were wondering about the result of the night's work. Some thought it must be a failure and others expressed doubts. The arbitrators came, but Mr. Hobbs answered no questions. Soon after ten o'clock Mr. Woodbridge came and there being quite a crowd around, he called from a distance: "Hallo, Mr. Hobbs, what is the trouble?" "There is something the matter with the lock," said Mr. Hobbs. "What is it?" said Mr. Woodbridge. Mr. Hobbs then carefully moving the wire, pulled the door of the safe open and said, "Your lock wont keep the door shut."

The arbitrators handed the check and certificate to Mr.

Hobbs, who went immediately to the Mechanics' Bank, obtained the \$500, and destroyed the certificate, leaving Mr. Woodbridge in charge of his lock and safe, a wiser man than he was the day before.

Mr. Hobbs continued traveling and selling bank locks, and as it was important that he should carry his box of what might have been called a set of burglars' tools to demonstrate the insecurity of the locks in use, it was also advisable to have with him letters and documents which would secure him from trouble or difficulties of suspicion while among strangers. On proposing to go to Europe he received the following:

"OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.
NEW YORK, April 18th, 1851.

"ALFRED C. HOBBS, ESQ.,

"*Dear Sir:*—Understanding that you are about to go to Europe on professional business, and that it is your intention to attend the World's Fair to be holden at the city of London, I thought it would be acceptable to you to have in your possession a few lines from me by way of recommendation.

"I have had the pleasure of your acquaintance since my first connection with the police of this city, and I can unhesitatingly bear ample testimony to your character as a gentleman and a citizen. Having been for many years connected with the manufacture of the most celebrated locks in this country, I know that your knowledge of their structure is unsurpassed, and would highly recommend you to the authorities and police of whatever European city you may visit. Wishing you much success, I have the honor to be

Your friend,

GEORGE W. MATSELL,
Chief of Police."

Mr. Hobbs had often heard of a wonderful lock that was placed in the window of the celebrated lock maker, Bramah, of London, and the offer of 200 guineas reward to any one who should open it without the key, and having seen several of the Bramah locks he felt quite sure he could open this one for which the reward was offered. Therefore he left New York in April, 1851, on the steamship Washington, for Southampton, with the lock of Day and Newell to exhibit, and also his small chest of tools to test the locks of European make. While landing at Southampton the custom officer requested him to open the small box, which he did, but the expression of the face of that official when he saw the contents cannot well be described. However, handing a letter to Mr. Croskey, the American consul, who stood by, an explanation of the purpose of the implements soon made all things right, so that



the mischievous box was passed. This box or trunk was fifteen inches long, eight wide, and eight deep, having six trays in which the tools and instruments were carried. During a few hours spent with Mr. Croskey he desired to know what was to be done, and after hearing the explanation, and Mr. Hobb's binding him to say nothing about it, Mr. Croskey said that for the first time he had heard an American express a desire to have anything he knew kept quiet, and if anything could be done to raise the comparative standard of the Americans he would be delighted, for their show at the Crystal Palace was very poor, consisting as it did of a few barrels of shoe pegs, some bunches of brooms and a few American carriages.

A few days after Mr. Hobbs arrived in London he called on the American minister, Mr. Abbott Lawrence, with whom he had been acquainted in Boston, and informed him somewhat with the object of his visit. The locks of Day and Newell had not been on exhibition long before they attracted considerable attention, especially by many of the exhibitors of locks, and much to the annoyance of Mr. Hobbs. His reputation as an expert on locks having gone before him, he was asked many questions which did not receive direct answers, since he carefully avoided saying anything about what he intended to do or what he had done. He visited and examined the great variety of English locks, and having several times stopped at the window of Bramah, where the prize lock was exhibited, became more satisfied about opening it, but said nothing to any one about opening or picking locks. A short distance from the Day and Newell show case, in the Crystal Palace, was a case that contained a very good assortment of Colt's revolving breech rifles and pistols. One day there was quite a crowd gathered around it and presently one of the guards came and said to Mr. Hobbs that His Grace, the Duke of Wellington had come to see Colt's revolvers, but the attendant was not there, and asked if he could open the case and explain them to the duke. Knowing where the key was kept he complied with the request. Being through with this exhibition the duke said: "Now, Mr. Hobbs, what have you to show me?" His Grace was then led to the case containing the locks, and upon their exhibition he expressed

much pleasure, taking Mr. Hobbs by the hand he said, "With your permission I shall come and see you again." The next morning about ten o'clock he came with the Marchioness of Duro and another lady, and said: "I am so much pleased with your wonderful lock that when I told the ladies they immediately desired to see it, so I have brought them." After having seen the lock the duke wanted to re-examine the rifles and pistols, and Mr. Hobbs explained them as before. The duke, taking Mr. Hobbs by the hand, said: "I shall want to see you and talk about America." In about ten days he came, and taking a seat near the lock case with Mr. Hobbs, the conversation lasted some time. Then the duke said: "Now, Mr. Hobbs, I want you to explain that model of Ni-a-gā-ra Falls" (that stood near by). After this explanation His Grace again shook Mr. Hobbs' hand and thanked him for his attention. A short time after this, at one of the queen's drawing-rooms, as the American minister was passing, the Duke of Wellington (who was standing near the queen) said: "Mr. Lawrence, I am pleased to see you. I have seen the great American lock. It is one of the finest things in the exhibition, and Mr. Hobbs is one of the cleverest of men." A few days after, Her Majesty, the Queen, with Prince Albert, several ladies in waiting, the Prince of Wales, with attendants, came to see the locks, having the day before notified Mr. Hobbs that they were coming. From that time to the close of the exhibition Mr. Hobbs was favored with visits from many of the Royalty to see the GREAT AMERICAN LOCK.

The remembrance of these visits and conversations from the great persons of England is very pleasant, after more than thirty years have passed, and especially as he drew some little attention and credit to the genius of America.

During this time spent in the exhibition Mr. Hobbs had carefully examined all the locks that Bramah had in the exhibition, stopped and looked at the lock hanging in the window, and made himself fully prepared before making any attempt upon the Bramah lock. This lock and the 200 guineas filled his eye exactly. During this time, also, many rumors had been floating about that he could open all the locks in the exhibition, and there were several gentlemen who were anxious to have Mr. Hobbs show how it was possible to open



a Chubb's lock. Mr. Chubb had also given several challenges to get Mr. Hobbs to make a trial. Therefore he informed several gentlemen that if he got a chance to test a lock in use on some door, he would show them whether or not it could be opened. The following letter was sent to Mr. Chubb so that he could be present,—taken from the London "Observer."

"GENTLEMEN: An attempt will be made to open a lock of your manufacture on the door of a Strong-room at 34, Great George-street, Westminster, to-morrow, Tuesday, at 11 o'clock A. M. You are respectfully invited to be present, to witness the operation. Yours respectfully, A. C. HOBBS.

"American Department, Crystal Palace, July 21.

"To Messrs. Chubb and Son, St. Paul's Churchyard."

Although Mr. Chubb took no notice of the communication he sent a man to look on. The following extract from the London "Observer" gives the result of the operation:

"London, July 22, 1851.

"We, the undersigned, hereby certify that we attended, with the permission of Mr. Bell, of 34, Great George-street, Westminster, an invitation sent to us by A. C. Hobbs, of the city of New York, to witness an attempt to open a lock throwing three bolts, and having six tumblers, affixed to the iron door of a strong room or vault, built for the depository of valuable papers, and formerly occupied by the agents of the South Eastern Railway Company; that we severally witnessed the operation, which Mr. Hobbs commenced at 35 minutes past 11 o'clock, a. m., and opened the lock within 25 minutes. Mr. Hobbs, having been requested to lock it again with his instruments, accomplished it in the short space of seven minutes, without the slightest injury to the lock or door. We minutely examined the lock and door (having previously had the assurance of Mr. Bell that the keys had never been accessible to Mr. Hobbs, he having had permission to examine the keyhole only). We found a plate at the back of the door with the following inscription:—'Chubb's new patent (No. 161,461), St. Paul's Churchyard, London, maker, to her Majesty.'

"Mr. HARDLEY, 26, Great Earl-street.

Mr. WILLIAM N. MARSHALL, 42, Charing-cross.

Mr. W. ARMSTEAD, 35, Belitha-villas, Barnsbury Park.

Mr. G. R. PORTER, Putney Heath.

Mr. F. W. WENHAM, Effra-vale Lodge, Brixton.

Mr. A. SHANKS, Robert-street, Adelphi.

Mr. T. SHANKS, Robert-street, Adelphi.

Colonel W. CLIFTON, Morley's Hotel.

Mr. ELIJAH GALLOWAY, 42, Southampton-buildings.

Mr. PAUL R. HODGE, 9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

Mr. CHARLES H. PEABODY, 1, Norfolk-street, Strand."

Notwithstanding the above testimony Mr. Chubb continued to deny that his lock had been fairly opened.

Mr. Hobbs, having disposed of Chubb's lock, thought it about time to give his attention to the challenge lock of Mr. Bramah, and hence went into the shop where the lock was hanging in the window and asked the shopman if that was a real lock. "Of course it is," said the man. "Then I would like to see it," said Mr. Hobbs. The man, not knowing who he was speaking with, asked if he were a locksmith, to which the reply was, no; but that he was very curious about locks and would like to see it. Placing the lock in Mr. Hobbs' hands the man turned to wait on a customer. Mr. Hobbs, taking his pen-knife and feeling of the points of the lock, the man became very much annoyed, and said: "What are you doing?" "I was only feeling of those pieces to see if they would move," said Mr. Hobbs, for he had been told they would not, and that the lock was a trap. But the examination assured him that it was not. The man seemed very much excited and took the lock. Presently one of the proprietors came in and Mr. Hobbs told him he desired to try to open the lock, and also told who he was. In reply he called Mr. Hobbs' attention to the challenge, which read: "The artist that will produce an instrument that will pick this lock shall receive 200 guineas reward the instant it is produced." Mr. Hobbs then said that it was generally understood that the offer was to anyone that would pick the lock without injuring it, regardless of how it was done, and that if they would not submit it to a fair test they must take it out of the window or he would make it known to the public as a fraud. The gentleman said he would consult the proprietor and give an answer.

It so happened on the following morning that the London "Times" had an article giving a description of a case of jewels, a collection of great value belonging to Hope, the banker, and saying, that "the case was secured by one of Bramah's locks; that it was also understood that an American gentleman had thrown down the gauntlet and offered to pick both Chubb's and Bramah's locks. Is it safe?"

The following morning a letter was published in the "Times" from both Chubb and Bramah saying; "If the American gentleman or any other person will pick our lock



he shall have the 200 guineas reward." Mr. Hobbs went direct to Bramah and said he was satisfied he intended to do what was right, and in order to have a fair test they would have three arbitrators to make the arrangements and see that the test was fairly made. The arbitrators were chosen, the lock fastened to a door, and Mr. Hobbs was notified that all was ready.

He first took measurements of the keyhole. The following from the London "Observer" gives the method of procedure in opening the lock :

We next come to the mode in which Mr. Hobbs felt out the notches in the sliders for the purpose of adjusting them to their proper places. For this purpose he used a plain steel needle, with a moderately fine point, and another with a small crook at the end, and something like a crochet needle ; the former for pushing in the slider, and the latter for drawing it back when it had been pushed in too far. By feeling along the edge of the slider delicately the notch was found and adjusted, and its exact position was then accurately measured by means of a thin and narrow plate of brass for future reference, and marked upon the brass slider, by way of a record ; so that when the operator left the lock at night everything was in its usual normal position, and to all intents and purposes as if nothing had been done to it, but he meantime carried away with him the results of his day's progress, and began on the succeeding day from the point where he left off. The lock which was the subject of Mr. Hobbs' operations had no less than 18 sliders, each of which had to be adjusted to its proper place, and the reader will be able from this to appreciate the time, and labor, and patience required. Independently of the two small instruments we have described, Mr. Hobbs used a third bent one as a substitute for the small lever or projection at the end of the key by which the bolt is shot and withdrawn. This was also permanently fixed in the lock during his operations, and by a simple piece of mechanism so arranged as to exert a continual pressure on the cylinder. The two hands of the operator being thus at liberty, he was enabled to use both in feeling out the notches in the slides, commencing with those that offered the greatest resistance, and moving them up and down until he felt that the resistance had ceased, by the notch being adjusted to the steel plate. He thus proceeded through the entire eighteen, and then the barrel moved a little round, and he by this means ascertained that he had got the sliders adjusted to the false notches, and had to commence *de novo*. By repeated trials in this way he succeeded in finally adjusting the whole of the sliders to their proper places ; the cylinder then revolved, and the lock was opened. Although the operation was performed by steps, and although different instruments and different steps were taken to accomplish it—the spring being held down by one piece of mechanism, the sliders adjusted by another, and the cylinder turned by a third, the committee have, on a full consideration of all the circumstances, come to the decision that Mr. Hobbs has fairly picked the lock, and have decreed that he should obtain the two hundred guineas.

And also the following is the report of the committee :

"Report of the Arbitrators to whom the Bramah Lock Controversy has been Referred.

"Whereas for many years past a padlock has been exhibited in the window of Messrs. Bramah's shop, in Piccadilly, to which was appended a label with these words: 'The artist who can make an instrument that will pick or open this lock shall receive 200 guineas the moment it is produced;' and Mr. Hobbs, of America, having obtained permission of Messrs. Bramah to make trial of his skill in opening the said lock.

"Messrs. Bramah and Mr. Hobbs severally agreed that George Rennie, Esq., F.R.S., of London, and Professor Cowper, of King's College, London, and Dr. Black, of Kentucky, should act as arbitrators between the said parties.

"That the trial should be conducted according to the rules laid down by the arbitrators, and the award of 200 guineas be decided by them; in fine, that they should see 'fair play' between the parties.

"On July 23d it was agreed that the lock should be enclosed in a block of wood and screwed to a door, and the screws sealed, the keyhole and the hasp only being accessible to Mr. Hobbs, and when he was not operating the keyhole was to be covered with a band of iron, and sealed by Mr. Hobbs, that no other person should have access to the keyhole. The key was also sealed up, and was not to be used until Mr. Hobbs had finished his operations. If Mr. Hobbs succeeded in picking or opening the lock, the key was to be tried, and if it locked and unlocked the padlock it should be considered as a proof that Mr. Hobbs had not injured the lock, but had fairly picked or opened it, and was entitled to the 200 guineas.

"On the same day (July 23d) Messrs. Bramah gave notice to Mr. Hobbs that the lock was ready for his operations.

"On July 24th Mr. Hobbs commenced his operations, and on August 23d Mr. Hobbs exhibited *the lock opened* to Dr. Black and Professor Cowper (Mr. Rennie being out of town). Dr. Black and Mr. Cowper then called in Mr. Edward Bramah and Mr. Brazalgette, and showed them the lock opened. They then withdrew, and Mr. Hobbs locked and unlocked the padlock in presence of Dr. Black and Mr. Cowper.

"Between July 24th and August 23d Mr. Hobbs' operations were for a time suspended, so that the number of days occupied by Mr. Hobbs was 16, and the number of hours he was actually in the room with the lock was 51.

"On Friday, August 29th, Mr. Hobbs again locked and unlocked the padlock, in presence of Mr. G. Rennie, Professor Cowper, Dr. Black, Mr. Edward Bramah, Mr. Brazalgette and Mr. Abrahart.

"On Saturday, August 30th, the key was tried, and the padlock was locked and unlocked with the key by Professor Cowper, Mr. Rennie, and Mr. Gilbertson, thus proving that Mr. Hobbs had fairly picked the lock without injuring it. Mr. Hobbs then formally produced the instruments with which he had opened the lock.

"We are therefore unanimously of opinion that Messrs. Bramah have given Mr. Hobbs a fair opportunity of trying his skill, and that Mr. Hobbs has fairly picked or opened the lock, and we award that Messrs. Bramah and Company do now pay to Mr. Hobbs the 200 guineas.

"GEORGE RENNIE, Chairman,
EDWD. COWPER,
J. R. BLACK.

"Holland street, Blackfriars, September 2d, 1851."



Comments of the London newspapers :

Since the opening of Messrs. Bramah's lock, Mr. Hobbs and his lock have become the objects of much interest and curiosity to the visitors of the Great Exhibition. Hard-handed and intelligent mechanics and delicate ladies, scientific men and *savans*, with dandies and *dilettanti*, crowd round him whenever he makes his appearance in the United States department, and listen with an eagerness which at times threatens serious consequences ; for he is almost overwhelmed by the numbers and the pressure to hear his explanations and illustrations of the principle on which the parantoptic lock is constructed. Whatever may be thought of the vauntings of some of his countrymen, we must say that Mr. Hobbs has invariably referred to himself and his performances with much modesty, and never makes any allusion to them until questioned and pressed by those around him, and then treats them, not as something wonderful to boast of, but the natural result of his intimate acquaintance with the mechanism of locks.

We confess that the Americans in the two public contests in which they have recently been engaged with us, have shown a propriety and good feeling which is calculated to shake our preconceived notions of the American character. Commodore Stevens, in his conduct of the yacht challenge, exhibited throughout a gentlemanly courtesy and a disposition to accede to the wishes of his opponents, which must produce a favorable impression upon the minds of all who have read the correspondence and the details of the contest. Mr. Hobbs, flushed with victory, and looked upon by three-fourths of the public as little else than a wizard, has been snubbed and sneered at by some of his opponents ; but yet there is not a line or a word in any of his published letters at which the most captious could take offence. He has a very humble opinion of his own merits, and believes that there are a hundred men in London, who, if they set themselves seriously to work, could do what he has done.

Mr. Hobbs always takes great pleasure in referring to the kind treatment and attention he received in the several contests he had with his many competitors during the time of the World's Fair in London, and well he might, for they made of him a lion, and for once he received his merited deserts.

The excitement caused by the complete overthrow of the locks in general use in England brought out many new inventions, and some, although the parties had reason to believe to the contrary, still held to their old ideas. Mr. Hobbs had been in London but a short time when he received a letter from William Brown of Liverpool, the head of the House of Brown, Shipley and Company, bankers, requesting him to call at St. James Hotel. Complying with this request, he found Mr. Brown was the inventor of a lock, which was then in use on the bank of the company. This lock he thought very secure, and after explaining its construction,

making sketches of some of its parts, and showing how many thousand and million combinations it had, the various ways it could be locked, with only one way to open it, he asked Mr. Hobbs how it was possible to open it without knowing the word on which it was locked? Mr. Hobbs replied that he thought the lock very much like the Letter Pad Lock in point of security, and if so, it could easily be opened. Mr. Brown in much surprise said, "you certainly do not understand me." Mr. Hobbs requested him to explain it again, which he did, very carefully pointing out the impossibility of opening it with its many obstructions, and then asked again, "Do you really think it could be opened?" Mr. Hobbs saw that he was well satisfied with the lock as his own invention, and on his repeating the question a third time concluded to let him enjoy his own opinion and said he could not give an opinion without seeing the lock itself. Mr. Brown seemed well pleased at this and requested Mr. Hobbs to call at their Banking House whenever in Liverpool.

About five months after, Mr. Hobbs received a copy of the proceedings of the Archeological Society of Liverpool, which contained a paper on locks by William Brown, M.P., in which the same lock was described, and it wound up as follows: "During the time of the exhibition in London, I saw Mr. Hobbs and described this lock to him. At first he seemed to think he could open it, but after a more thorough explanation was made to him, so that he more fully understood the lock, I again asked him, and his answer was so evasive that I concluded he could not open it, and I am having another like it put on a new safe that is now being made for our bank."

Mr. Hobbs, thinking it now time to give Mr. Brown a call, went to Liverpool and met him at his Banking House. Mr. Brown was very glad to see him, and said his new safe was just coming in, therefore he could not show the new lock but that the old one would do as well. Calling his cashier he directed him to lock the safe, which he did. Mr. Hobbs then began to explain what he should do if he should attempt to pick the lock. There was no key, but there was a T wrench to put in a hole to throw the bolts when the pointers



on the dial were in their proper position. Mr. Hobbs said, "you do not think anything of that wrench, do you?" "No," he said, "we put that on the top of the safe at night." Mr. Hobbs then said, "if I wanted to open the safe I should take the wrench and put it in, so that I could feel the bolts while turning the pointers on the outer dials." Presently the cashier called Mr. Brown, saying a gentleman wished to speak to him. Mr. Brown asked to be excused and turned to go away, but before he reached the door, the bolts went back, and the safe door came open. Mr. Hobbs then called to Mr. Brown saying, "Don't leave me here with this safe open." Mr. Brown, in great surprise said, "How did you open it?" "I don't know," said Mr. Hobbs, "I was turning the pointers round and it came open; perhaps it was not properly locked, have it locked again. The cashier locked it again, and Mr. Hobbs said, "I will now show you how easy it is to open this lock." Then turning his back to the door, and without looking at the lock opened it in less than ten minutes, showing Mr. Brown that his lock was worthless. Mr. Brown seemed very well satisfied, but not much pleased by the information he had received.

This success of Mr. Hobbs in showing the failings of the locks then in use in England, and the want of proper machinery in the business, suggested the idea of starting a lock factory with the view of getting it fairly running within three years and then disposing of it. Hence a partnership was formed and a building hired in Cheapside, London, and the securing of machinery to take the place of hand labor was begun. The progress was so slow that during the first year but little headway was made. Being then convinced that the time required would be much longer than at first supposed, Mr. Hobbs sent for his family, being determined to carry out what had been started. The second year began to make some show, and at the end of the third year a new building was required for the factory, which was built outside of the city, retaining the one at Cheapside for a store.

Mr. Hobbs was soon convinced that there was a great difference between the English and American way of doing business, and while pushing matters as fast as possible, he





Telford Premium.1854.



Awarded

Alfred Charles Hobbs. Alsoe: Instl ; C.E.

began to think about returning to the United States, although he had formed acquaintances and associations that he did not like to give up. The character and notoriety gained during the exhibition held on, and he received much attention from many in high position. He became a member of the Society of Arts, and by request gave a lecture before it on the subject of ancient and modern locks. Afterward he was called on for the same by many corresponding societies. He was also an associate of the institution of Civil Engineers, and wrote a paper on the principles and construction of locks. From this society he was awarded the Telford Medal, the highest premium ever given by it, and this was the third one brought to the United States, a representation of which is herewith presented in illustration. It is a most beautiful thing in itself and as an honor bestowed as it was, is well worth the priceless estimate placed upon it by its owner.

As time went on the business of lock-making increased and the addition of machinery suited for that special purpose was almost daily obtained. A new store was added, and a large portion of the business of the Government and Bank of England were given the firm, which added very much to their position and standing. In August, 1860, Mr. Ashly, one of the firm, died, and Mr. Hobbs then saw an opportunity to sell out and go home. A very satisfactory bargain was made on one condition, which was that the name of Hobbs should be continued on the sign, for which a premium was paid; and the name of Hobbs, Ashley and Company was changed to Hobbs, Hart and Company, 76 Cheapside. If any one should go there and ask for Mr. Hobbs they would probably be informed that he had stepped out.

Mr. Hobbs and his family left London in October, 1860, and arrived in New York November 1st. He has visited London several times since, and there is no business more flourishing in that city than Hobbs, Hart and Company.

During the nine and a half years Mr. Hobbs had been in London great changes had occurred in New York, so that he found it not easy to enter into satisfactory business arrangements. He went to Boston, but finding nothing there more promising, he, after a few months returned to New York.

There he soon met Elias Howe, Jr., with whom he had an intimate acquaintance before he went to England. Mr. Howe proposed that he should go to Bridgeport and take charge of a factory that was being built for making sewing machines. This position he accepted, after a few visits of inspection, and took charge of the completion of the building and the fitting up of the machinery. Although he had no knowledge of sewing machines, yet the business was started entirely under his supervision, and this continued until Mr. Howe's interference with the details of the running of the factory and giving and contracting orders, made it advisable for him to resign his place, which he did about 1865.

While engaged in the Howe shop the Metallic Cartridge Works were built by the firm of Schuyler, Hartley and Graham of New York. They purchased two small concerns of this character, one in Springfield, Mass., and the other in South Coventry, Conn. In looking for a suitable place to build a manufactory they fixed upon Bridgeport, and purchased a lot of land between East Washington avenue and Barnum street, and bounded on the east by Pembroke Lake which gave them the advantage of a water front. They built a main building of 120 feet by 40, three stories in height, and a few small wooden buildings around the yard.

When this was ended there was but little use for metallic cartridges. The breech-loading pistols and guns were not largely upon the market, and for some time the business looked rather doubtful. Mr. Hobbs had been out of employment for a few months, when on his way to Washington he went to the store of this firm in New York, and inquired if they desired any one to take charge of their cartridge works, when the reply being in the negative he went on to Washington. The next morning he received a telegram from Mr. Schuyler requesting him to return to New York at once. On meeting the firm he made arrangements to take charge of the cartridge shop for one year. This was in 1866. Things looked very blue. But little could be done excepting putting up machinery and trying experiments. The next year, however, made quite a different showing. Soon their buildings were filled, more added, and at times from 1,000 to 1,500 hands

employed. From that time—1868—great progress has been made. Cartridges have been made in great numbers, machinery been constructed for making them, and a very large home trade established. More land has been purchased, new buildings erected, and a large number of hands employed. The manufacturing department has been under the charge of Mr. A. C. Hobbs, it being considered one of the largest and most successful enterprises of the city of Bridgeport.

Philo Hurd was born in Brookfield, Conn., July 25, 1795. He was the son of Jabez and Lucy (Blackman) Hurd, and attended school from an early age until his fourteenth year, assisting his father in the work of the farm, more particularly in the summer months, and gaining thereby a vigorous constitution and industrious habits. He had a great desire for a thorough education, and for a time attended the private school of the Rev. Dr. Williams, but from lack of means he was compelled to relinquish his studies, and at the age of fifteen he entered the store of Oliver Warner in New Milford. Here he remained several years, during which Mr. Warner presented him with the uniform and accoutrements of a cavalry soldier at an expense of more than \$100. This was during the war of 1812, but he was too far from the seaboard to see active service. Mr. Warner meeting with reverses young Hurd spent the summer in farming and afterward found a position as clerk in Woodbury. In 1816, in connection with Frank Taylor of Danbury, he opened a dry goods store at Augusta, Ga. They landed at Savannah during a most severe prevalence of yellow fever, October 3, 1816. They were quite prosperous, but great inducements having been offered from Darien, Georgia, Mr. Hurd went there the following year, remaining several years, during which his brother Samuel Ferris Hurd joined him. In 1823, with his brother, he opened a dry goods store on the corner of Wall and Middle streets under the firm name of P. and S. F. Hurd.

On the 6th of October, 1823, he married Melinda, daughter of Agur Tomlinson of Brookfield, Conn. After several years he united with Isaac and William DeForest in the Boston coasting trade, after that, with Stephen Burroughs in the West India trade, having an interest also in the whaling business.

He was sheriff during a period of ten years, and while occupying this position was invited by Alfred Bishop to engage in the railroad business, then in its infancy. This was about the year 1838. He bought the right of way for a portion of the Housatonic railroad, then was engaged on the N. Y. and N. H. railroad in the same business. He located the line of the Naugatuck railroad, bought the right of way, superintended the construction of the road until its completion and in the meantime was made superintendent of the road, which position he held for seven years, and on resigning received a handsome silver salver and pitcher from the employees of the road in token of their regard. He then took charge of the Madison and Indianapolis railroad and its extension then building to Peru, as Vice-President and Superintendent, but receiving in less than a year a handsome offer, he came to New York and accepted the Vice-Presidency of the Hudson River railroad, remaining a few years until he was offered the presidency of the N. Y. and Harlem railroad. He brought that road and its affairs into a prosperous condition, but at the expense of his own health, and after partially recovering from a severe illness, he resigned his position and went to Florida and the Western States, and the following year to Europe, taking the "grand tour" and spending the winter in Italy. He returned in good health and engaged in a few business enterprises, but for the last twenty or more years of his life he has enjoyed a quiet leisure, often passing his winters in Florida or some other genial clime and his summers in Saratoga Springs and at Bridgeport with his daughter Mrs. J. E. Dunham.

In appearance he was very like his mother, having all the Blackman traits, slender form, active temperament, black hair and eyes. He possessed great energy of character, industry and perseverance. In his late years his loveliness of character outshone all other traits. He was a superior conversationalist, polite in his manners and a great favorite.

On the 6th of October, 1873, he and Mrs. Hurd celebrated their golden wedding in Bridgeport, gathering together a number of their old friends for the occasion. Mrs. Hurd died on the 3d of October, 1882, having lived with her husband 59 years. In Bridgeport he engaged in many public enter-

prises; was alderman of the city, recorder for many years, clerk of the Court of Probate; vestryman and treasurer of St. John's Church; and director of the Connecticut State Prison. He died August 14, 1885, aged 90 years and 20 days. He left three children, twelve grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

William S. Knowlton.—Prominent among the men who were identified with Bridgeport's growth and prosperity is the name of William S. Knowlton, who was born September 27th, 1810, at Shrewsbury, Worcester Co., Mass. He early learned the trade of a cutler but did not follow it long, devoting himself to the study of music and graduating at a then famous musical institute. From 1838 to 1842 he composed many pieces of sacred music, a number of which now rank among the most solid and popular of devotional compositions, and although without his name in modern reprints, are recognized by many as enduring monuments of his musical taste and remarkable skill in harmony. In 1848 he formed a co-partnership for the prosecution of railroad contract work, and the firm soon had heavy contracts in the construction of the New York and New Haven railroad, which work ultimately led him to this city. On the completion of that road he decided to make Bridgeport his home, and continued to reside here till the time of his death. Many of the public works of the city were built by him as contractor, the last being the Congress street bridge, after the completion of which he retired from active business life. Mr. Knowlton was widely known and universally respected among the business men of the community and throughout the State. He was a man of sterling integrity, genial, kindly feeling, quick to sympathize in the misfortunes of others and ever ready to do his share in every good work. He was thrice married, and at his death left one son, Colonel Julius W. Knowlton, at present (1886) Postmaster of Bridgeport.

Rowland Bradley Lacey, only son of Jesse and Edna (Munson) Lacey, was born at Easton, Conn., April 6, 1818. His early years were spent on his father's farm. After the manner of the period, at proper age, his time was divided

between farm work and attendance upon the common district school. Later he had the advantages of Mr. Eli Gilbert's select school in Redding and of the Easton academy. Before he reached the age of sixteen years he commenced teaching school, which work he pursued for several terms in his native town and in Redding, "boarding around," as was the custom. Mr. Henry Sanford, of this city, and his brother Aaron, long a resident of Newtown, and Henry B. Fanton, of Danbury, Conn., were among his pupils. In April, 1836, at the age of eighteen years, he took up his residence in Bridgeport, occupying the position of assistant postmaster with Stephen Lounsbury and his immediate successor, Smith Tweedy, for nearly four years. Bridgeport was then a borough with less than three thousand inhabitants, and everything, including the mail service, was in marked contrast with the present. It was incorporated as a city in 1836. Mr. Lacey having been a continuous resident from that period and closely identified with its various interests, is specially conversant with its entire municipal history.

Upon the opening of the Housatonic railroad in December, 1839, he secured the position of agent at Bridgeport, which involved a large share of the responsibility of operating the road. For several years during the winter season this was the only steam line between New York and Albany, and hence the traffic was very heavy, taxing to the utmost the resources of the road. In March, 1844, he resigned this position with the railroad, not without the remonstrances of Alfred Bishop and other leading men connected with the road, to accept a position offered him by Messrs. Harral and Calhoun as book-keeper in their saddle manufactory. This was at the time one of the leading manufactories in the State of Connecticut, doing a large southern trade, having a warehouse in New York and branch establishments in Charleston, S. C., and Saint Louis, Mo. Mr. Lacey soon became assistant manager of the manufactory, and in 1853 became a member of the firm of Harral, Calhoun and Company. In 1858, after the death of Mr. Harral, the firm was reorganized under the name of Calhoun, Lacey and Company, and in 1863 the title was changed to Lacey, Meeker and Company. The market





Rowland Lacey

of the saddlery business being chiefly in the south, the late war involved heavy losses to them and caused this firm, with others, to withdraw and close up the business.

Between the years 1840 and 1850 Mr. Lacey was connected with the old volunteer fire department as private member, as foreman of Company No. 1, and as assistant engineer. In 1848 he drew and procured the adoption of a city by-law for a better organization of the fire department, which continued in force until the adoption of the paid system in 1870.

He was a member of the common council in 1848, 1852, 1853, and 1864. In 1870 he was requested by Mayor Morford and others to visit neighboring cities and ascertain their methods of keeping public accounts, and he then drew the plan of the present financial system, which, upon some revision by Francis Ives, Esq., was adopted by the common council February 20, 1871. At the same time he was appointed city auditor for three years, and to this office he was reelected in 1874, 1877, and 1880. He was also connected almost constantly during the above period with the street and sewer departments, as the clerk of the board of road and bridge commissioners and secretary of the park commissioners, and in the adjustment of damages and benefits for street and sewer improvements. He introduced system into the accounts of the town of Bridgeport and since 1876 has had the sole charge and management of the Town Sinking Fund—involving a heavy responsibility.

The Bridgeport Annual "Municipal Register" originated with him in 1873, and for ten successive years he prepared and supervised its publication. It was fully appreciated from the first and is regarded as an invaluable work of reference.

His services have been much sought for on important committees, and as trustee, executor or administrator on numerous estates.

One of the earliest fields of usefulness aside from his regular employment was in the public schools of Bridgeport, which he found at a very low ebb. His efforts resulted in marked improvement of the central school. Other pressing engagements withdrew him from that field and the only part

taken by him in the more recent measures was in the adjustment of the intricate financial questions and interests between the town and the former school districts in connection with consolidation.

He has always been interested in local history, and this, in fact, might be styled his hobby, or his field of recreation, since in the house and by the way he lightens every work and enterprise with inquiry and anecdote of history.

It was at his suggestion that his father-in-law, Deacon Isaac Sherman, wrote a valuable series of articles, embodying his own early recollections together with many facts handed down from the first settlers. These sketches, revised and corrected by Mr. Lacey, are published in this work, much to the honor of the early settlers of the locality. He has also written, at the expense of much time, research and labor, many papers, articles and obituary notices, which have been published in various forms—in the "Municipal Register" and public journals of the city, and read before the Historical Society, which have added very greatly to the remembrance of the early inhabitants of the place, and to the pleasure and satisfaction of the present generation. A very busy man with present, living issues, he has yet found time to rescue the graves of the fathers and mothers of the early settlement from disgraceful neglect. Those who have ancestors or friends buried in the ancient Stratfield burial ground owe him a lasting debt of gratitude for his liberal expenditure of time, labor and money for the accomplishment of this end.

In the whirl, excitement and cares of an intensely busy life, he never lost sight of his moral and religious obligations.

He began life a total abstainer from intoxicants and manfully adhered to the principle through many temptations. Very soon after he took up his residence here he identified himself with the First Congregational Church, then under the pastoral care of Rev. John Blatchford and entered the choir and Sabbath school. In July, 1837, he became a member of that church by the removal of his relations from the Congregational Church in Redding, Conn. How thoroughly he has been identified with the First Church all these years since, few now on the stage can know or appreciate. The records of the Sabbath school, the Church and Ecclesiastical



Society best reveal it. He was elected deacon of the church August 30, 1850, and has served continuously since—also a number of years as clerk and treasurer. For nearly fifty years he has served in one or more of the following capacities: society's treasurer, chairman of the society's committee, Sunday school teacher, librarian, teacher of the Bible class and superintendent.

Rev. Peter Lockwood, son of Lambert and Elizabeth Lockwood, was born in Bridgeport, Conn., February 8, 1798, and was the third of a family of five children, one of whom was Roe Lockwood, a well known book seller in New York. He was descended from Puritan ancestry, who stoutly resisted the encroachments of the Romanists in the days of Charles I. He often related the story told by his mother of the escape from Ireland in 1641 of one of her ancestors by the name of John Roe. "This John Roe and his brother, in endeavoring to reach the sea shore as they fled from persecution, took refuge in the house of a wealthy lady whom they knew, and while receiving refreshment were alarmed by the arrival of officers in search of them. The good housewife hastily hid them in a closet filled with soiled clothes. The officers demanded, and she delivered her bunch of keys to them, having previously removed the key of the closet where the men were hidden, but when the officers had searched the house they asked if she had delivered all her keys to them. She replied 'There is the key of the closet where I keep my dirty clothes, if you want to look in there,' at which they were so disconcerted that they took their departure."

Peter Lockwood's youth was passed in his native place learning the art of printing and book-binding.

In 1813, at the age of fifteen years, he entered Yale College, where, in the midst of a successful scholarship, "he, with many others, publicly professed Christ in the college chapel, on April 2, 1815, and where he graduated in his college course in 1817." He at once entered the theological seminary at Andover, where he was graduated in 1820; and in 1821 was ordained an evangelist, which work he pursued three years in New York city, Richmond, Va., and in New England.



On the second day of October, 1822, he married Matilda, the daughter of the Hon. John Davenport, of Stamford, Conn. In 1824 he was settled as pastor at Peekskill, on the Hudson, where he labored two years, after which, for a time, he pursued his evangelistic labors in Western New York.

On Sunday, August 5, 1827, he preached his first sermon in the first Presbyterian church of Binghamton, N. Y., where he became pastor and labored as such with great success six years. From 1834 he continued a classical school in Binghamton for two or three years. From October, 1837, he served as pastor of the Presbyterian church at Cortland, N. Y., for five years. From this place he removed, in 1842, to Berkshire, Tioga county, where he labored as pastor another five years, after which he made his residence in Binghamton until his decease, which occurred November 16, 1882, in the 85th year of his age.

The Rev. J. P. Gulliver, D.D., one of the successors of Mr. Lockwood in the Binghamton church, wrote of him: "I have always regarded Mr. Lockwood, since I knew him, as a very remarkable man. His force of character seemed to press up into view on all occasions and in all directions, as if from an inexhaustible fountain. His simplicity and artlessness were even more remarkable, as it seemed to me. Happy shall we be if we can leave such a record.

Hon. James C. Loomis was born in Windsor, Conn., April 24, 1807. He prepared for college at the grammar school in Hartford, entered Yale College in 1824, at the age of seventeen, and graduated with honor in the class of 1828. Among his classmates were the Rev. P. T. Holly, for a time of this city, ex-Governor Hoppin, of Rhode Island, Judge William Strong, of the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Loomis read law first at Charlottesville, Va., and finished his law studies with Judge Clark Bissell, of Norwalk. He was admitted to the bar of Fairfield county in 1832, and settled in his profession with the Hon. Samuel B. Sherwood, at Saugatuck, now Westport. He took from the first a very respectable stand as a lawyer, but regarding Bridgeport as a more promising field for his profession, he removed thither in 1840, and soon became actively interested in public matters.





J. R. Parrott



In 1848 he formed a law partnership with George W. Warner, which continued several years. He was city attorney for a number of years, and mayor of the city in 1843. He twice represented this town in the lower house of the State Legislature, and once or twice the tenth district as State Senator, and by virtue of this position became a member of the corporation of Yale College.

He married Miss Eliza Mitchell in 1833, who, with her young son, departed this life in 1841, which was a very afflictive occurrence to him.

In 1844 he married Mary B., daughter of Ira Sherman, Esq., and immediately settled in his beautiful home on Golden Hill. His two children deceased while he was living, the daughter in early childhood, his son, of great promise, when a member of the senior class in Yale College.

Mr. Loomis was successful in business and financial enterprises, and was a public spirited citizen. Upon the consolidation of the city schools he was made the first president of the board and had a very active part in the organization of the schools. He was one of the first projectors of the Seaside Park, and as one of the commissioners of it was very active and influential in its early improvement. He was president of the stockholders' association for the erection of the present edifice of the first Congregational society from 1849 until about 1860. At his decease, September 16, 1877, he was president of the following boards and associations: Bar Association of Fairfield County, the Board of Education, the Mountain Grove Cemetery Association, the Bridgeport Library Association. He was also an active director in the City National Bank and trustee of the People's Savings Bank.

Henry R. Parrott was born January 4, 1829. At that time his parents, Frederick W. and Lucelia (Remer) Parrott, resided on the corner of Main and Wall streets. Mr. H. R. Parrott's education was obtained in the private schools of Ebenezer French and Warren W. Selleck of Bridgeport, and three years' course at the Danbury Academy under the instruction of Rev. John W. Irwin. His business life began in the dry goods store of Beers and Oviatt, where he remained until they closed their business. After that he was in the



employ of James W. Beach for a few years, and then for about eight years in the store of E. Birdsey and Company. In 1855, he entered as agent the service of the Adams Express Company, which had just been organized. He left that company in 1869 and organized the present Parrott Varnish Company, the products of which have now a world-wide reputation, Mr. Parrott being the manufacturer and general manager.

While not having any desire for political office, he has nevertheless strong, pronounced views, and is a thorough Republican, and as such during the late war by his fearless expressions and activity did much service in the cause. In recognition of his loyalty and business ability, the Adams Express Company in 1861, after the battle of Bull Run, selected him to reorganize and place upon a proper footing their extensive business in Washington, D. C.

In his own city he has been a member of the Board of Aldermen, twice a member of the Common Council, and six years a member of the Board of Police Commissioners. In 1873 he was elected a director of the New York and Eastern Railroad Company, the first organization looking to the building of a parallel road from New York to New Haven. For thirteen years he has steadily advocated the project, and the present favorable condition of the New York and Connecticut Air Line Railway Company, of which he is the president, is largely due to his labors in that direction.

Henry Seymour Sanford, only son of David C. Sanford, Judge of the Supreme Court of Connecticut, was born in 1832, graduated with honor at Yale College in 1852, admitted to the bar in 1854, practiced at New Milford until 1864, when he removed to Bridgeport where he has since resided.

Mr. Sanford is noted for great energy and activity under a very great misfortune. In 1861, in consequence of an accidental injury he was rendered totally unable to walk or even to stand, by paralysis, which also seriously affected his arms and hands. But with constant effort he has exercised his strength to recover from this misfortune; and since 1864, has followed his profession, both in the courts and in his office

steadily, and has now a practice as extensive as any lawyer in his county.

In 1863, while temporarily living in New York, he witnessed an instance of gross cruelty to a horse, which led him to write a letter to the New York "Daily Times," proposing the formation of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. This letter was conspicuously published in that paper, and is believed to have been the first suggestion for such a society published in New York or the United States. This letter attracted much attention; the suggestion was adopted, and as is well known, successfully carried out by Mr. Bergh. H. B. Claflin, an uncle of Mr. Sanford's wife, bequeathed \$25,000 to this New York society, and like societies have been organized throughout the country."

Mr. Sanford spends considerable time in the summers at New Milford, and in the spring of 1871 he proposed the scheme and drew the papers for the "Village Improvement Society," of that place, which has had very decided success, and become quite celebrated throughout the country, through lectures by the Rev. B. G. Northrop on this subject, in which, taking for his text the New Milford Society, he was influential in forming more than three hundred similar societies.

19

JANUARY 4, 1864, NEW YORK DAILY TIMES.

After describing the exposure and terrible suffering of the horse so cruelly abandoned by its owner and left uncared for by the authorities of the city, Mr. Sanford concludes his letter as follows:

"Where the fault lies in the neglect of this terrible case, I do not know, but in the name of humanity I beg that it may be ascertained and an effective remedy applied. The country has but lately rung with eloquent denunciation of the brutality of a prize fight perpetrated by lawless men, contrary to law, but in some measure palliated by public opinion. *This* brutality was perpetrated by officers of the law, according to law, though outraging every type of public opinion.

"Such instances of brutality to the helpless animals who serve us are becoming very common. They should be stopped. If the law is defective, amend it. If the police are remiss, punish them. Good men should interest themselves in this matter. In Great Britain there is a rich and powerful society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. There is need enough, heaven knows, for such an agency here. Let us all remember

"He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small,
For the dear God who loveth us
He made and loveth all."

"H. S. S."

Judge Lucius Myron Slade, son of Joel and Clarissa (French) Slade, was born in the town of Hartland, Hartford county, Conn., June 19, 1828. His ancestors in both lines were of the good old New England type and character. Abner Slade, his grandfather, served through the seven years' war of the Revolution. Joel Slade, the father, married Clarissa, daughter of William French, and spent the early part of his married life in Hartland. Having improved the advantages of the district school, Lucius M. Slade entered upon an academic course and was fitted for college. He then engaged as a teacher, and for ten years pursued this work in private and public schools.

He entered the law office of Hon. Hiram Goodwin of Riverton, and completed his legal course with the late F. A. Palmer of Stonington, and was admitted to the New London county bar, September 13, 1860. The first three years of his professional life were spent in Mystic. Having attained to a successful professional standing, he looked about for a more advantageous location, and as such fixed upon Bridgeport. Here he established his law office in 1863, and soon after was elected Chief Judge of the City Court; and in 1866 was elected to the office of Judge of the Probate Court for the district of Bridgeport, which office he held for six consecutive years, with great acceptance to the public. Declining a reëlection, he resumed the practice of his profession, which he has continued since that time. In 1885, he was elected to the Legislature, where he distinguished himself as a successful worker and debater, and was one of the leaders of the House. He was appointed on the Judiciary Committee, and also chairman of the committee on "Revision of Rules." He did considerable towards shaping the action of that body, especially in the line of advanced legislation. One of these items was the adoption of the "Homestead Bill," by which a certain amount of property as a homestead was exempted from execution. Another item was the bill which was passed effecting important changes in the Municipal Charter of the city of Bridgeport, securing particularly the division of the Common Council into two bodies, the aldermen and the councilmen, and establishing a board of public works. To this he gave special attention and effort.





S. B. Bradley



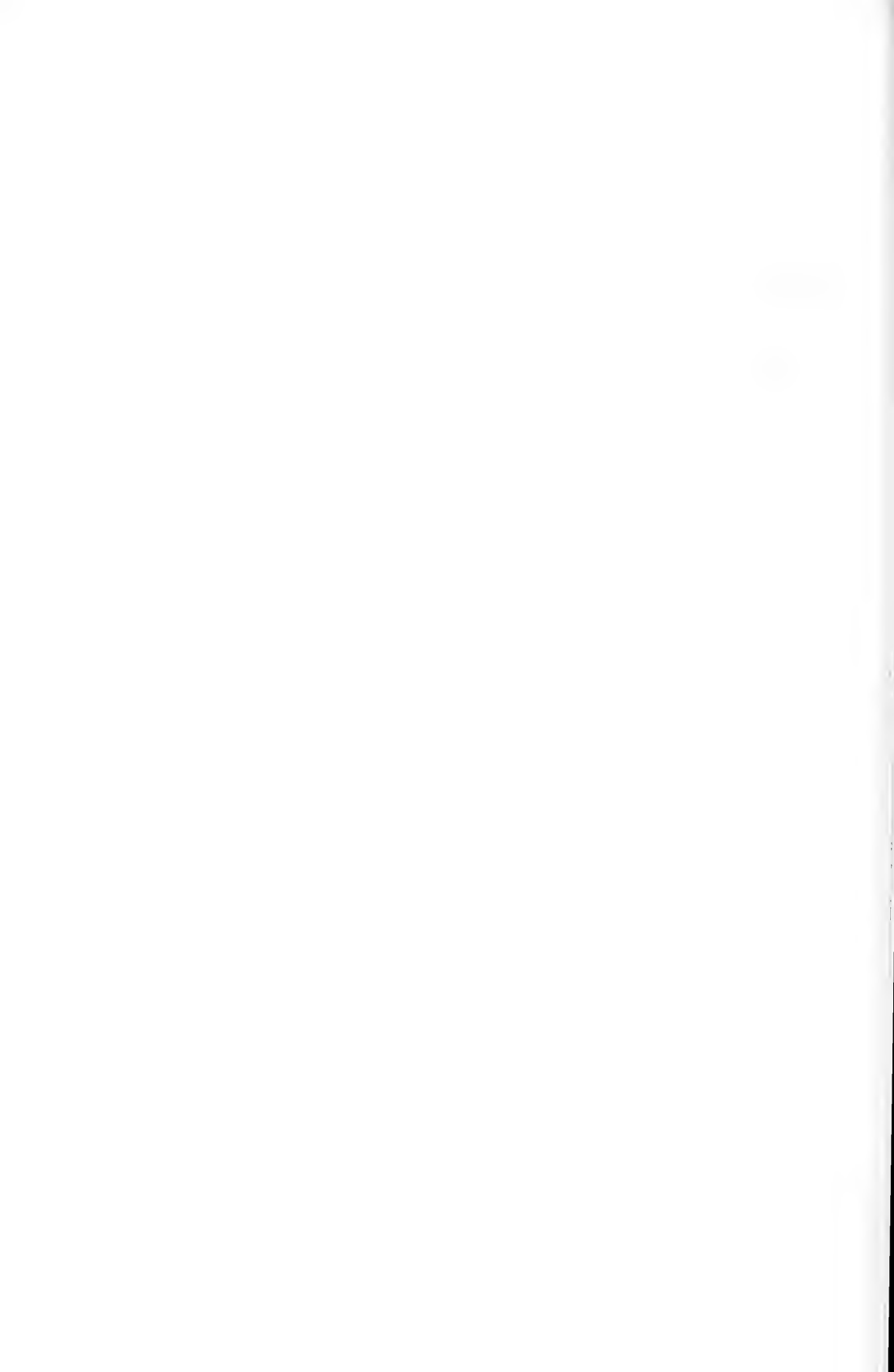
Another bill of interest to the whole State was drafted and advocated by him. It was the bill passed to regulate the observance of the Fourth of July, confining the celebration to the daytime and relieving the night before the Fourth of the customary disturbances of this kind, which had become such a nuisance as to be almost unbearable by well people, saying nothing of the sick, and the great injury frequently done to public and private property.

Judge Slade never married, but has a pleasant home on Fairfield avenue where he resides, continuing the practice of his profession. The Judge frequently delivers public lectures on commercial law as connected with business life. He has always been found interested in the growth and prosperity of the city of his adoption.

Sidney B. Beardsley, son of Cyrus H. and Maria (Burr) Beardsley, was born in Monroe, Conn., August 20, 1822. He was educated at Wilton Academy and Yale College; studied law with Reuben Booth, of Danbury, and was admitted to the bar in August, 1843. He commenced practice in Norwalk, where he remained until 1846, during which period he was Judge of Probate. In 1846 he removed to Bridgeport, where he has since resided. In 1858 he was elected State Senator and has been a candidate for Congress. In 1874 he was elected by the Legislature Judge of the Superior Court.

Hon. Philo Clark Calhoun, born in Danbury December 4, 1810, was the son of Philo Calhoun, whose father had for many years been a practicing physician at Washington, Conn., and of Sally J., daughter of John McLean of Danbury. Mr. McLean was an old resident of Danbury, having held a position of trust under the government during the Revolutionary War, and whose losses at the burning of Danbury were such that large grants of land were afterwards given him in the Western Reserve. Mr. Calhoun was related to the Hon. John C. Calhoun of South Carolina.

He came to Bridgeport about 1826 to learn the saddle and harness business with Lyon, Wright and Company. His health failing somewhat he was sent by the firm to



Charleston, S. C., with Lemuel Coleman to assist in the store. In 1833-4, he returned to Bridgeport and became assistant to Hanford Lyon in the saddlery business, with an interest in the profits of the establishment, which relation continued until 1838, when the firm of Lyon, Calhoun and Company was formed. In 1843, another change was made to Harral and Calhoun, which continued ten years, Mr. Harral having been at the head of the house in Charleston. In 1853, the firm became Harral, Calhoun and Company by the addition of Mr. R. B. Lacey. In 1858, a change to Calhoun, Lacey and Company occurred, which lasted until 1863. In the mean time Mr. Calhoun had largely withdrawn from the details of the business and devoted himself to the management of the Connecticut National Bank, of which institution he became President in March, 1847. He continued in this position until 1864, when he resigned and accepted the Vice-Presidency of the Fourth National Bank of New York City, organized that year, Morris Ketcham being President, and in the same year he was elected President. Upon his taking control, the deposits of the bank quadrupled in a short time, and it was owing largely to his management that this became one of the largest deposit banks in the country. In 1875, upon the dissolution of the firm of Hoover, Calhoun and Company, Mr. Calhoun established in Newark, N. J., a stock company for the manufacture of saddlery, in which he owned a controlling interest at the time of his death.

During his Presidency in New York the bank was engaged in several large transactions, among which were the purchase of United States bonds, the bank taking \$5,000,000 worth at a time. One of his greatest efforts was during the panic of 1873, when in a little over two days more than \$13,000,000 in cash were paid out through the Paying Teller's window.

In Bridgeport Mr. Calhoun held many prominent offices. He entered the Common Council in the year 1845, and continued in that body during that and five successive years. In 1852, he was elected Alderman, and in October, 1855, was elected Mayor, which office he held for three years afterward. He was one of the originators of the town and sinking funds, and the manager of them for a number of years. He was one





Engraved by H. B. S. & Co. N.Y.

P. B. Cathman



of the original stockholders of the Bridgeport Gas Light Company; also one of the first to subscribe liberally towards the public library, and was very prominent in the Common Council when the water question was under consideration, being of great aid in furthering the enterprise. He represented the town in the Legislature and also the 10th district in the Senate. But very few men have exerted more influence in official circles than Mr. Calhoun. He was originally a Whig, but when that party broke up he united with the Democrats, and as such was elected to the various offices which he held.

He was a straight-forward business man, not afraid to take responsibility, always true to his engagements, and hence his character was beyond reproach. A prominent feature of his character was the interest he took in young men, whom he was always ready to assist. He was at the time of his death President of the Fourth National Bank of New York, and director of the Connecticut United Bank, a director in the Farragut Fire Insurance Company, treasurer of the New Central Coal Company, and trustee of the mortgages of several railroad companies. He also held membership in the Union League and Union Clubs. Socially he was very genial, and all who came in contact with him, whether of high or low degree, loved him and delighted to be his friends.

He had a most remarkable memory, being able to repeat on the spur of the moment long pieces of poetry. His memory was even more retentive in regard to matters of importance. On financial, mercantile or political questions, he was ever ready with the item, and page of the book which sustained his proposition.

Mr. Calhoun, after a short illness with pneumonia, died March 14, 1882, leaving a widow and five adult children. His wife, Caroline, was the daughter of Jesse Sterling, who was a prominent dry goods merchant here many years and Postmaster of Bridgeport during four administrations. His son, Edward S. Calhoun, married Alice Hersey, and his son Charles M. is unmarried. His daughter, Louisa C., married G. W. Latham of Lynchburg, Va., now deceased; Julia E. married W. B. Cragin of New York City, and Mamie S. married J. S. Burke of Brooklyn, N. Y.



The following lines were written by a citizen of Bridgeport on the decease of Mr. Calhoun :

I saw him, as he lay in state,
And, with abated breath,
I noted with what courage great,
He had confronted death.

Old statues were recalled to me
Of heroes passed away,
And in those features I could see
A masterpiece of clay.

Three score and ten of active years
Were represented there,
With all their hopes, achievements, fears,
And lines of thought and care.

But ; over and encircling all,
A grandeur was expressed
Which change of worlds could ne'er appal,
As there he lay at rest.

This cannot be the whole of life ;
There must be broader sphere,
Where chieftains in this mortal strife,
With vision sure and clear,
May act some nobler, higher part,
In enterprise above,
And satisfy the yearning heart
With stores of endless love.

Peter Foland, a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., established a grocery store with Riley Peck in the city of Albany in the year 1850. In 1852 he sold his interest in this store and rented the Peck Hotel in Albany, which interest he sold in 1857 and went to Burlington, Iowa, where, with a Mr. Brown, he opened a wholesale stove store. This he continued two years when he sold it in 1859, returned to Albany, and with Mr. Van Dewerken bought the Frisby livery. In 1860 he sold this and bought the lease and furniture of the Gallup Hotel in Albany. In 1864 he leased the Beardsley Hotel of Albany, and in 1867 he bought the lease and furniture of the Mansion House, on Broadway, Albany. Having sold this interest he went on his farm, one mile from the capital, and in the fall of the same year returned to Albany and bought the lease and furniture of the City Hotel, which he sold in 1876 and removed to Poughkeepsie, where he leased the Nelson House. This he sold in 1880, came to Bridgeport,





Civilian Jones



and bought the lease and furniture of the Atlantic Hotel. This is a first class hotel and is illustrated on page 818 of this book, where there is some further account of Mr. Foland and his family.

Hon. Civilion Fones, the present mayor of the city of Bridgeport, is a descendant of two French Huguenot families. His paternal great-grandfather, Daniel Fones, was one of the exiles to England during the reign of Louis the XIV, and afterward became an officer in the English navy, and when retired was given a tract of land embracing 1,500 acres in the State of Rhode Island, where the old town of Wickford now stands and on which he located. His son Daniel the grandfather, and Christopher the father of Civilion, were born on the ancestral acres, and the latter married Sarah A. Marigold, of South Carolina, who was also a descendant of French Huguenots. While his father was temporarily residing in Toronto, Canada, superintending work in the line of his occupation as architect and builder, Civilion was born October 1, 1836, the year of the incorporation of the city of which he is now the mayor. He resided during his youth in Canada and the State of New York, and came from New York City to Bridgeport in the year 1858, where he has since resided.

He was educated to the occupation of his father and engaged in it for a short time, but then became identified with the pioneer dental manufacturing establishment of the late Doctor D. H. Porter, whose works and residence were located on the corner of Park and Fairfield avenues, the present site of St. John's Church, where he commenced to learn his profession as dentist, but subsequently graduated from the Maryland College of Dentistry, and also the Baltimore Dental College. He has been engaged in the practice of his profession on the northwest corner of Main and Bank streets for about twenty-five years, and the appreciation of his professional brethren has been expressed by electing him president of the Connecticut Valley Dental Association for an annual term.

He has been identified with the republican party since its organization, but never held political office until the year 1884, when he was elected to represent his ward as councilman. The following year he was elected alderman, and at

the April election in 1886 was elected mayor of the city, overcoming an opposition party majority of about 800, and hence received an unusual support from both political parties.

He married, October 21, 1863, Phebe E., daughter of Alfred S. Wright, of New York City, and they have had three children: George, who died in early childhood; Grace, and Alfred C., who are now living with their parents.

Jacob Kiefer was born in a small town of Rhenish Bavaria, near the border of France, in the year 1829. His father, Jacob Kiefer, was the master builder and cabinet maker of the place. His mother died when he was about one year old. In 1833 his father concluded to go to America, taking young Jacob with him, arriving in New York after a two months passage by a sailing vessel, and settled at first in Maryland, then coming to New York City where he carried on the business of cabinet making until his death in 1849. Young Jacob received his education at public school No. 7, in Christie street, New York City. At the age of ten years he entered the service of Benjamin Mooney and Company, wholesale hardware merchants at 82 Pine street, as an apprentice, where he remained about four years, when, having more mechanical than mercantile ideas, he commenced the manufacture of guitars in his father's cabinet shop, under the direction of Signor Bini, the finest guitarist then in this country. The superiority of workmanship and tone of his instruments attracted the attention of the musical public, and at the American Institute fair held at Castle Garden in 1846, he received the first premium, his competitors being the best makers in the United States. His father consenting, he came to Bridgeport at the solicitation of Mr. Fenelon Hubbell, to work as a journeyman cabinet maker, where, after a time, conceiving the idea of manufacturing furniture by the aid of machinery, he, in 1850, commenced business on his own account in a small building, and by the aid of steam power manufactured furniture for his old employers. In 1852, in connection with several business men of Bridgeport, he organized the Furniture Manufacturing Company, and for several years he acted as superintendent and built up the largest furniture business in the eastern States, employing over four hundred hands. Since 1868 he has been the president and treasurer of this





Jacob Kiefer

immense establishment, the goods produced being known throughout the country as the standard of excellence.

Mr. Kiefer is a public spirited and enterprising citizen. Having been a member of the old volunteer fire department for about fifteen years, he was one of the first to suggest the use of steam and the organization of the present efficient paid fire department, but which at the time made him many enemies in the old department. He was one of the first subscribers to a fund for laying out Seaside Park, and for several years one of the park commissioners. For a number of years successively he was a member of the common council, and in April, 1886, was elected president of the board of aldermen of this city. In politics he is republican in practice, and was raised in the old Dutch Reformed Church.

In 1850 he married Effie Jane, daughter of Gabriel Decker, of Pompton Plains, N. J., and they have three children: Emma Louisa, who married W. Henry Wilson; Hattie J., who married W. E. Burnham; and Frank W., who married Leota Saladee, daughter of George L. Weed of Stamford.

David Benjamin Lockwood was born at Weston, Conn., January 7, 1827. His father, David Lockwood, was born at Weston, Conn., April 27, 1791, and his mother, Abigail (Gray) Lockwood, was born at Westport, Conn., January 2, 1802. His grandfather, Reuben Lockwood (son of John), was born April 17, 1762, at Fairfield, Conn., and served in the Revolutionary war. The family is descended from Robert Lockwood, who settled in Fairfield in 1649. David B. has one sister, Rhoda Ann Lockwood, and one brother, Wakeman D. Lockwood. He prepared for college at Staples' Academy in Easton, Conn., and entered the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., in 1844, and was graduated there in 1849. He received the degree of B.A. upon his graduation, and three years later the degree of M.A. He commenced the study of law with Hon. Thomas B. Osborne, of Fairfield, and concluded it in the office of Hon. Sidney B. Beardsley, of Bridgeport. He was admitted to practice in 1851 and opened an office at Bridgeport where he continued in his profession until 1856, when he removed to New York City. He continued his practice there until the breaking out of the war of the rebellion, when he returned to Bridgeport.

In 1862 he enlisted in the 2d Connecticut Light Battery and served as first sergeant until the close of the war, participating in the battle of Gettysburg, the siege of Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan, and the battle of Blakeley in the war at Mobile. After the close of the war he was for a while local editor of the "Daily Standard," and in 1866 was assistant editor of the Waterbury "Daily American." In 1867 he resumed the practice of his profession in Bridgeport which he has continued until the present time. From 1869 to 1871 he was judge of the City Court of Bridgeport. In 1875 and 1883 he was representative in the General Assembly. He was city attorney of the city of Bridgeport in 1880 and 1885. He drew the act conferring upon the city court criminal jurisdiction and was the first judge of that court after its jurisdiction extended to the trial of criminal cases. He was president of the Bridgeport Library Association in 1880 and 1881 and was largely instrumental in reorganizing that institution into the present Bridgeport Public Library and Reading Room, under the act of the General Assembly of 1881. He was appointed one of the directors of the library and has been continued until the present time. He drew the act of incorporation of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Savings Bank of Bridgeport and procured its passage through the General Assembly in 1871, and has since been one of its directors. He drew the amendment to the city charter dividing the common council into two separate boards. He drew the act relating to county law libraries and organized the Fairfield County Law Library Association and has been a member of its library committee from its organization to the present time. When he took hold of this library it consisted only of a few books given by Roger M. Sherman and Judge Butler, but it now contains the reports of twelve States complete, besides the United States Supreme Court and English common law.

He married Caroline Amelia Redfield, of Clinton, Conn., January 11, 1856, by whom he had two children: Alice Redfield, born October 2, 1856, and Lester Burchard, born September 25, 1860. His wife, Caroline A., died November 5, 1865. He married Lydia Ellen Nelson October 1, 1868, and their children are: Harriet Eugenia, born August 8, 1869, Lucy Bettie Josephine, born November 19, 1870, and Sidney Nelson, born November 14, 1872.



DAVID B. LOCKWOOD

David B. Lockwood





RESIDENCE OF MR. FREDERICK J. LOCKWOOD, ERECTED IN 1884-5.



Judge Lockwood is of commanding presence, being six feet three inches in height and weighing nearly three hundred pounds. He is ranked as one of the leading members of the Fairfield county bar. Hon. Alfred B. Beers studied law with him and upon his admission to the bar in 1871 entered into copartnership with his instructor, the name of the firm being Lockwood and Beers, which has continued to the present time.

Frederick J. Lockwood is the owner of one of the model residences in the city of Bridgeport, and has granted the use of the accompanying cut as a representation of it. It is located on West avenue, one of the finest in the city. Mr. Lockwood is a young man, a native of Bridgeport, and has been connected with the Bridgeport Savings Bank for a number of years, being a successful business man. He is the son of Mr. Frederick Lockwood, who was in former years engaged in the furniture business with Nicholas Northrop and later with Nathan Buckingham.

Frederick J. Lockwood is a descendant, through his mother, of Robert McEwen, who came to Stratford, from Dundee, Scotland, in 1686, and whose descendants have occupied very honorable positions in this country. He married in 1884 Miss Elizabeth C., daughter of Thomas Cook Warden, Jr. They have occupied their residence since it was completed in 1885.

David M. Read, merchant and manufacturer in Bridgeport, was born at Hoosac Falls, N. Y., and soon after removed with his parents to North Adams, Mass., where he was educated. His father, Moses Farnam Read, was born in Smithfield, R. I., and his ancestors in this country in a direct line were as follows: i. Col. Thomas Read, from Hertfordshire, England, came to America in 1630 with Winthrop and settled at Salem, Mass.; ii. Thomas, son of Col. Thomas, lived in Salem, was a captain of the militia; iii. Jacob, son of Capt. Thomas, born September 7, 1663, married Elizabeth Green, and lived in Salem; iv. Jonathan, the second son of Jacob and Elizabeth, was born in Salem, January 12, 1701, and married a Hanson; v. John, son of Jonathan, married also a Hanson; vi. David, son of John, settled in Smithfield, R. I., where his son, vii. Moses Farrand Read, was born and where he resided until he removed to Hoosac Falls, and from that place soon



after he removed to North Adams, Mass. He married Sally Hopkins and their children were: Charles A., Caroline M., Rhoda A. and David M.

David M. Read became a merchant and manufacturer, as described on pages 752 and 53 of this book, having attained as a merchant, as well as a manufacturer, the position of the first class as to the extent and success of his business. Besides the public positions filled by him as indicated on page 753, he was a member of the Legislature in 1882 and is vice-president of the City Savings Bank and a director in the Bridgeport National Bank. His residence is on Park avenue and his store, occupying the first floors and basement of two buildings in the Wheeler block, corner of Fairfield avenue and Main street.

Mr. James Staples, son of Capt. Hezekiah and Elizabeth Staples, was born in Swanville, Maine, January 19, 1824. He worked on his father's farm until seventeen years of age, when he commenced teaching school, and continued in the same much of the time until he came to Bridgeport in 1854. He engaged first as a lumber merchant, which he pursued until 1858, when he changed to the Real Estate business; beginning at first in a small way, but with a steady purpose of successful work. Soon he added to this Insurance, and in 1874 the Banking business. He has been a very active officer of the Board of Trade from its organization and done much in securing and locating many of the manufacturing concerns in this city. He has been for many years an active and useful member of the Board of Education, giving his time and attention freely to the public interests in this important department. He is a very busy man, but as such is not an exceptional character in the city of Bridgeport, where nearly all, however much favored with earthly goods, even in advanced years, attend to business and public interest with much faithful attention and perseverance. Hence Bridgeport is not an old foggy city.

Mr. Staples married Harriet H. daughter of Hugh Shirley, January 19, 1851, who died April 2, 1852. He married 2d, on September 21, 1858, Sarah E. only daughter of Andrew and Sarah (Turney) Truby of Bridgeport. They have one child, Frank T. Staples, who, with his wife and son, lives in the house with his parents, and where his mother was born.





James Staples.



Hon. Daniel H. Sterling was born July 10, 1819, and departed this life March 1, 1877.¹⁸ He belonged to one of the families most thoroughly identified with Bridgeport and the surrounding communities. Jacob Sterling, the first of the name in this country, came from England, not far from the beginning of the eighteenth century, and located at Haverhill, Mass. That settlement suffered a terrible experience by massacre from the French and Indians on the night of the 29th of August, 1708, by which all but a thirteenth part of the population were slaughtered and their village burned. From that desolated village young Jacob removed to Lyme, Conn., and thence to Stratford, bringing all his worldly wealth with him—his axe—upon his shoulder.

He was the son of Daniel and Hannah (Judson) Sterling. His mother was the daughter of Col. Agur Judson, of Huntington. He was descended from Jacob Sterling, through Stephen, Abijah and Daniel. He was fitted for college in the school of Rev. Birdsey G. Noble and entered Yale in the class of 1839, but changed to Union College, at Schenectady, N. Y., and was honorably graduated in 1840. Soon after he entered the firm of P. C. Wheeler and Company, wholesale grocers, consisting of Mr. Wheeler and Woolsey G. Sterling. In this house Daniel H. became a partner, and upon the decease of Mr. Wheeler, in May, 1841, the firm became D. H. Sterling and Company. The place of business was on Water at the foot of Wall street. It was at the time the leading grocery house of the place. In 1849 his brother retired and D. H. Sterling, left alone, engaged in the flour trade. On September 7, 1854, he was elected a director of the Connecticut Bank and continued such until June 5, 1875, when he was elected president of that institution, which position he held at his decease. He was also a corporator of the City Savings Bank and one of its vice-presidents.

He was elected mayor of Bridgeport in 1860, and reëlected in 1861 and 1862, and during that time was a thorough Union man, sustaining the efforts of the model war governor—Buckingham, by whom he was highly appreciated. The first steam

¹⁸ Selections from a funeral discourse by the Rev. Charles R. Palmer, delivered March 11, 1877.

fire engine was introduced during his administration, and is yet doing good service, bearing his name—The D. H. Sterling, No. 1. He was also vice-president of the Board of Education and chairman of the finance committee. In the years 1848–51, in 1853, 1858, 1870 and 1871, he was in the common council, and in 1855 and 1859 in the board of aldermen.

He was a valued member of the First Congregational Society, acting as committeeman and treasurer for a number of years. As a public citizen he was a model man in all the walks of life.

In 1842 he married Miss Maria M. Beck, granddaughter of Paul Beck, Jr., of Philadelphia, who still survives him.

Colonel William H. Stevenson was born in Bridgeport in 1847. He is the son of William G. and Lucy T. Stevenson. In 1869 he married Mary H., daughter of Wm. J. and Mary H. Shelton, and their children are, William Shelton, Henry Cogswell, Louis Shelton, and Mary Bell.

Colonel Stevenson received a good education and was fitted for college but did not enter, going into business instead. He graduated at Eastman's National Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., with the degree Master of Accounts, and entered in 1864 the Housatonic Railroad office at Bridgeport, where he remained several years, and in 1872 was appointed Special Agent of the New York and New Haven Railroad, remaining until 1874, when he was appointed Paymaster of the New York Central and Hudson River Railroads. Here he served for a portion of the year, and in July, 1874, he received the appointment of Superintendent of the Shore Line Road, one of the leased lines of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Road. This road he continued to manage, bringing it to a high state of efficiency and popularity till October, 1882, at which time he was appointed Superintendent of the New York Division of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. This position he now holds. This road is one of the best for its length in the United States, and the traffic over it has immensely increased in the last quarter of a century. In April, 1875, he was elected a member of the Common Council and served upon the Finance Committee; in 1876 he was elected Alderman from his ward and served as chairman of the Finance Committee and the Committee of





Mr. Stevenson

Ways and Means; he was reëlected Alderman in 1877 and acted as chairman of the same committees. In the same year he was nominated for Representative to the Legislature on the democratic ticket, but was defeated by P. T. Barnum, republican. In 1878 he was again reëlected Alderman and chairman of the Finance and Ways and Means Committees. In this year, having passed the required examination, he was admitted a member of the Fairfield county bar. In 1881 he was nominated by the democratic party for Mayor of the city, but was defeated. In 1884 he was President of the Young Men's Democratic Cleveland and Hendricks Club, and took an active part in the campaign. Colonel Stevenson was appointed Aid-de-Camp, with rank of Captain, on the staff of Brigadier-General S. R. Smith, of Connecticut National Guard in 1879. He served as Captain till 1884, when he was promoted to be Brigade Commissary with the rank of Major, on the staff of General Smith. In 1884 he was appointed Aid-de-Camp, with rank of Colonel, on the staff of Governor Thomas M. Waller.

Colonel Stevenson is an active and prominent member of several societies. He was the third President of the old Eclectic Club of Bridgeport, for ten years one of the most successful and popular social institutions in the city, and was its last President at the time that it wound up its affairs, paying every debt and declaring a dividend to members. In 1884, after serving in all the lower offices, he was elected Grand Master (of the Grand Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows) of the State of Connecticut. In 1885 he was elected by the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Connecticut, as Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge. In 1886 he was appointed General Aid with the rank of Colonel on the staff of Lieutenant-General Underwood of the Military Branch, "Patriarchs Militant," of the Order of Odd Fellows. He is also a member of the Masonic Order, having joined St. John's Lodge, F. and A. M., of this city.

In 1885 Colonel Stevenson was elected President of the Association of "American Railroad Superintendents," and in 1885 was elected a member of the "Old Guard" of New York City. In 1885 he was chosen "Exalted Ruler" of the Bridgeport Lodge of the Order of Elks. Beside this, he is a

Director in the Railway Telegraph Company, also Director in the New York and New England Railroad Company, and in the Bridgeport Board of Trade. He was appointed at the last meeting of the Order in Boston—1886—Grand Marshal of the Sovereign Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of the United States.

Colonel Stevenson resides on Golden Hill in the brick block recently erected on the site of the residence of the late Wm. J. Shelton. He has been connected with St. John's Episcopal Church, and a member of its vestry for many years and has been active in its affairs.

Rev. Thomas J. Synnott was born in the county of Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1818. After the ordinary preliminary education, he entered Carlow College, a well known institution of Ireland, and there studied for nine years completing his theological course. As a student he was noted for the thoroughness with which he mastered his subject, and always stood high in his class, among whose members was the distinguished prelate, Most Rev. Archbishop Ryan, who at present so ably governs the Archepiscopal See of Philadelphia, Penn., and between whom and Father Synnott a warm friendship sprang up which lasted through life.

He came to the United States, arriving in Philadelphia in the year 1850. Soon after this he was received into the diocese of Hartford which at that time included what are now the dioceses of Hartford and Providence, and in 1851 was elevated to the priesthood by the Right Rev. Doctor O'Reilly, Bishop of Hartford.

Immediately after his ordination he was attached to St. Patrick's Church, Providence, as assistant to Rev. Father Wiley, whom, after about one year, he succeeded as Rector.

St. Patrick's parish did not long enjoy his rectorship. Bishop O'Reilly recognized in the young and zealous priest qualities that eminently fitted him for the building up of another portion of his diocese, and in the month of August, 1852, he was transferred to Bridgeport, succeeding Rev. Father Lynch as pastor of St. James' Church, which at that time was the only Catholic church in this vicinity. It was a brick structure situated at the corner of Washington avenue and Arch street. The number of parishioners at that time was



Thomas Lyndt

about 500. His new field of labor was a place that required hard work, and much tact, in the exercise of authority, and the reverend gentleman fulfilled the duties of his position to the entire satisfaction of his superiors.

There are some yet living who remember the noble and commanding presence of the young priest who then came to dwell among them, and who lately, after over thirty years of service, beheld him laid to rest within the shadow of the noble edifice reared by his untiring zeal and energy.

Not only the Catholics of Bridgeport, but also those of the surrounding country looked to him for religious instruction, and the administration of the Sacraments. East Bridgeport, Fairfield, Stratford, Stepney, and other towns enjoyed the fruits of his labors, and he was often obliged to travel long distances on errands of mercy. Within a short time after his arrival he found it necessary to enlarge St. James' Church to accommodate his growing flock, and also establish a mission church in East Bridgeport, where he erected the building known as St. Mary's, situated at the junction of Crescent avenue and Church street, and now used as an academy by the Sisters of Mercy.

All this was accomplished within three years. About the year 1855 St. Mary's became an independent parish.

Father Synnott then turned his attention to the building of a mission church in the town of Fairfield, and, in a short time St. Thomas' was completed. Thus, with rapid strides did his energy push forward.

St. James' Church, although enlarged, had now become inadequate for the wants of the parish and the reverend gentleman directed his efforts to the erection of a suitable edifice, and the result of his labors is the beautiful church of St. Augustine which now adorns the city, situated on Washington avenue. The corner stone of the church was laid August 28th, 1866, and was dedicated by Right. Rev. Bishop McFarland in June, 1868.

His next work was the erection of the magnificent structure now known as St. Agnes' Convent and situated at the rear of the church, which for style of architecture and beauty of finish is unexcelled by any building of its kind in the country.

Although not entirely finished at the time of his death, the work was completed in a most thorough manner by his worthy successor, the Rev. M. F. Kelly, and opened as a school under the charge of the Sisters of Mercy December 21st, 1884.

When prostrated by his last illness he was engaged in laying out a tract of land, some forty acres in extent, situated in the northern part of the city, which he had donated to the church corporation, and which in time will prove a valuable acquisition to the parish.

One of the latest acts of his life was the purchase of the Billings homestead, now the pastoral residence. He always claimed that the property would not be complete without it, and it had long been his desire to secure it.

Now that he is gone, his judgment is manifest, for, he has left a church property which, for worth, beauty and excellence of location is unsurpassed by any in the country.

A more universally respected and dearly beloved pastor is seldom found. He had the faculty of attracting to him everybody with whom he came in contact, being possessed of abundant personal magnetism, whereby, as well as by his deeds of charity and sympathy, he endeared himself to many outside his congregation.

On March 17th, 1884, a short time previous to his death, he was presented by his parishioners, in token of their esteem, with a beautiful gold chalice, accompanied by a handsomely engrossed set of resolutions.

As a citizen, he was upright, honest, and sincere; as a priest, he was a firm upholder of the doctrines of the church and always solicitous for the spiritual welfare of his flock. The cause of education found in him an earnest champion. He was a member of the Board of Education for several years, and during that time not only maintained kindly relations with his colleagues, but endeared himself alike to teachers and pupils.

To meet him socially was a pleasure. A keen observer of human character, a gentleman well informed on the leading topics of the day, possessing a correct knowledge of the affairs of his adopted country, and with a mind enriched by extensive travels abroad, his conversation was a source of

entertainment and instruction, to all those who enjoyed his acquaintance. He was also a wise counselor, and his advice was frequently sought on matters of importance, and always cheerfully given.

In April, 1883, Father Synnott was taken with a very severe attack of pneumonia, from which he never fully recovered. In April of the following year, he was again taken sick, this time with chronic diarrhœa, which resulted in his death on Wednesday, April 30th, 1884, aged 66 years. His remains, dressed in priestly robe, and enclosed in an elegant casket, reposed on a catafalque in the church at the head of the main aisle. There, surrounded by beautiful floral offerings, with the chalice lately presented to him, clasped in his hands, lay the body of the dead priest. During the day and night the church was visited by thousands who called to pay their last sad respects to one whom they loved and esteemed.

The funeral service took place on Saturday, May 3d. At ten o'clock the church doors were opened, and the vast edifice was soon filled. Many persons of note were present, including clergymen of other denominations. The Board of Education attended in a body. At the conclusion of the Mass, the Rev. Augustine F. Hewit, C. S. P., of New York, ascended the pulpit and delivered the eulogy, in which he paid an eloquent tribute to the memory of his departed friend, whom he had known since he came to Bridgeport; he spoke of his exemplary public life, of his stainless character both as a priest and citizen, and of the great work he had done for the cause of Catholicity and education,—work that will probably stand till the end of time. He said: "When we look around us and see the great work he has done, we can say it is enough for one man, his church will be his monument, with his record engraven on marble or stone, it will stand while generation after generation passes away, and will be handed down to the latest posterity."

In compliance with a wish expressed by the deceased he was buried in the church yard to the right of the main entrance.

This is only a brief outline of the life and labors of the Rev. Father Synnott, but doubtless in years to come a more com-

plete history of the Catholic Church will be written, when justice will be done to the memory of one who has done more than any other man to promote the cause of Catholicity in this part of the country.

Curtis Thompson, M. A., was born October 30, 1835, in Trumbull, Conn., where his parents, George and Lucy Ann (Curtis) Thompson, resided a short time.

They were both of Stratford birth and the descendants respectively of John and Mirable Thompson, and William and Elizabeth Curtis, and were related through the intermediate ancestors to the Wells, Peck, Blakeman, Booth, Judson, Lewis and other old families.

George was the son of David Thompson and Phebe Wells. David was lost at sea in the Brig William of Bridgeport in 1810. Phebe was a descendant of Thomas Wells, an early governor of Connecticut.

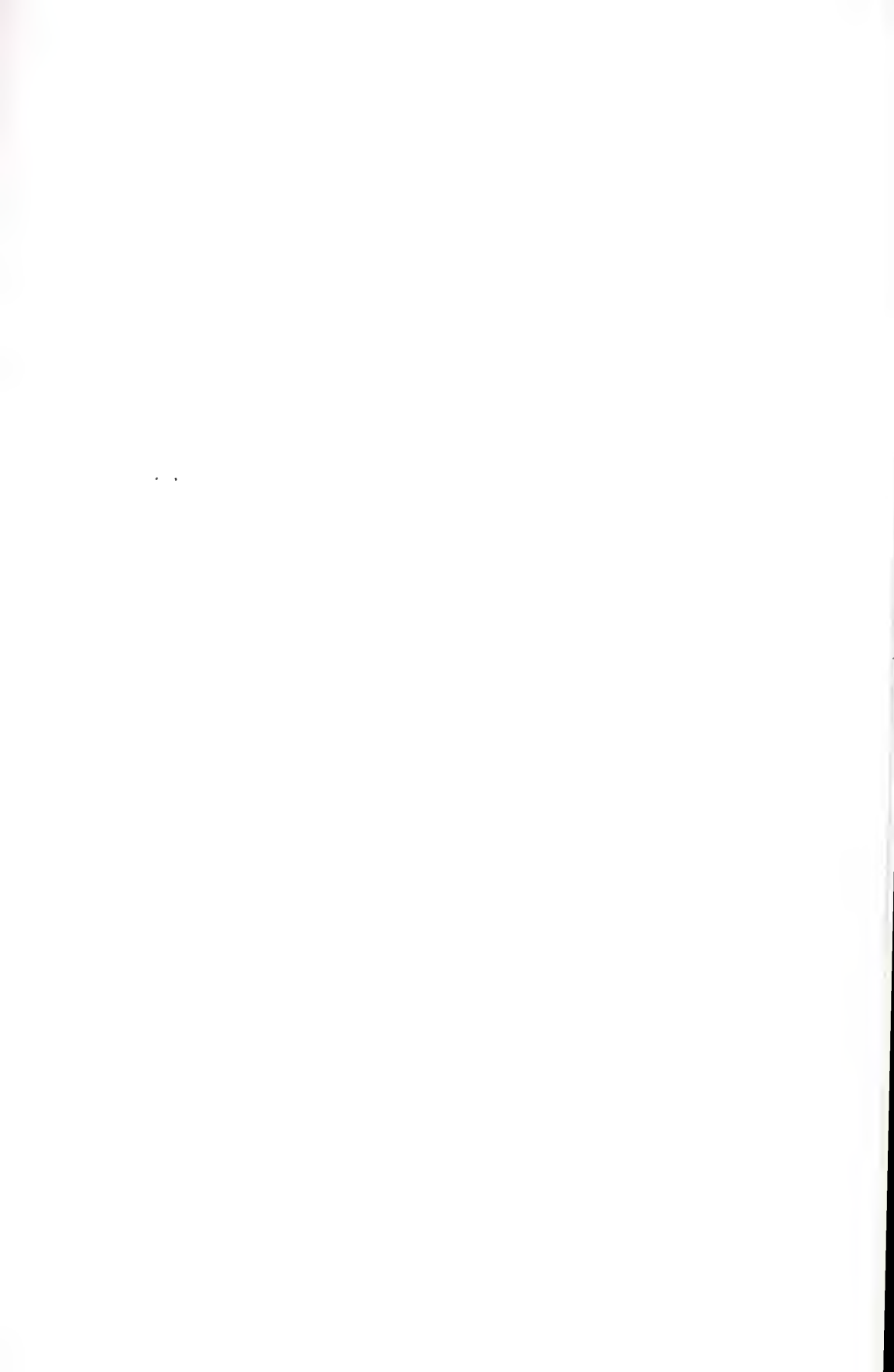
Lucy Ann was the daughter of Truman and Anna (Peck) Curtis.

Curtis Thompson attended the public and private schools of Stratford, and after reaching the age of sixteen worked at mechanical pursuits and taught school while still pursuing his studies with private instructors, and at the Stratford academy. While thus engaged he attended the Debating Society in Stratford, and with Seymour Wells, Abijah McEwen, Walter Wilcoxson, Oliver Beardslee, Lemuel J. Beardsley and others became an active participant in the debates. There was in the days of his youth at Stratford a library of about 400 volumes of well selected books. John Bruce was for a long time the librarian. To this library for a small fee he had access, and the opportunity was most diligently improved for many years.

The school teachers of that generation in Stratford, as he remembers them, were Dr. Lewis, Frederick Sedgwick, Hamilton Burton, Peter P. Curtis, George Judson, Miss Jane Stillson, Oliver Beardslee, Albert Wilcoxson and others, and they will long be remembered for their faithful and intelligent work. Oliver Beardslee was a young man of great worth and promise; an enthusiastic student and eloquent debater, and of great learning, whose untimely and sudden death cast a great gloom over Stratford.



Curtis Thompson



Mr. Thompson afterwards became actively engaged in the Bridgeport Debating Society and the Philomathean Society, and studied law, with George W. Warner, Esq., and D. F. Hollister, Esq., and at the Law Institution of Harvard University. He was admitted to the Middlesex county, Mass., bar, December 14th, 1863, and to the Fairfield county, Conn., bar, April 28th, 1864, and to the United States Courts November 21st, 1870.

Dr. J. T. Denison, having been elected Judge of Probate for the Fairfield District in 1864, he appointed Curtis Thompson the Clerk of that Court, and for the next four years the clerk did most of the Probate business in the district. In 1865, 1866 and 1867, he represented the town of Stratford in the General Assembly, serving on the Judiciary Committee in 1865, and as chairman thereof in 1866, and as chairman of the Committee of Incorporation in 1867.

Since August, 1865, he has had an office in Bridgeport, Conn., and practiced law. In 1868, 1869 and 1872, he was Deputy Judge of the City Court of Bridgeport. In 1871 Yale College conferred on him the degree of Master of Arts.

In 1872 he was elected Corporator and Trustee of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, and ever since has held the same positions.

In 1874, 1875 and 1876 he was Councilman and Alderman; in 1879, 1882 and 1886, City Attorney; in 1883, Town Attorney. He was for many years a director of the old Bridgeport Library. He is member of South Congregational Church and society (committee for many years).

In 1867 he was married to Marie Louise Willcox, daughter of James and Catharine (Barry) Willcox, of New York City. Mr. Willcox was then president of the Willcox and Gibbs Sewing Machine Company. Three surviving children are: James Willcox, Lucy Curtis and Catharine Barry Thompson.

Hon. Russell Tomlinson, son of William and Amy (Curtiss) Tomlinson, was born in Southbury, Conn., April 5, 1807, and died April 23, 1885. His father died when he was twelve years of age and Russell worked for neighboring farmers until he was fifteen, when he went to Amenia, N. Y.,

where he worked on a farm in the summer and in a blacksmith shop during the winter. From that place he went to Salisbury and worked at blacksmithing for two years. About the year 1827 he came to Bridgeport and was employed for a time by his brother, Stephen Tomlinson, in a small carriage shop, for \$1.25 a day. Afterwards he was in Columbia, S. C., through one winter as foreman of the blacksmith carriage shop of I. and L. Shuman. Upon returning to Bridgeport he opened a blacksmith shop, where he turned his energies chiefly to the making of carriage springs. This was the beginning of the extensive manufactory which in late years has been known as the Tomlinson Spring and Axle Company.

When he had accumulated \$450—quite a sum for a young mechanic in those days—he removed to Derby and began the manufacture of carriages, which he continued three years, when on selling his interests there he found himself in possession of \$1,450. He then returned to Bridgeport, purchased a steam engine and worked for a year or two making axles and sawing timber, when he bought half of his brother's interest in the carriage manufacturing firm of Tomlinson, Wood and Company. Here he continued about fifteen years, during which the business largely increased and established a name all over the country for manufacturing all descriptions of carriages. From this company he retired, and in the year 1852 organized the Tomlinson Spring and Axle Company, which had a run of great success.

He was elected president of the Naugatuck railroad company in 1860, which office he held until 1867, when he resigned. In 1863 he was elected representative to the General Assembly and in 1878 to the State Senate, where he was chairman of the State prison committee. He was director of the First National Bank of Bridgeport, twenty-one years, and vice-president of the People's Savings Bank from 1879 until his decease, and president of the Mountain Grove Cemetery several years. He was also agent for the Golden Hill Indians twenty-four years, or from 1861 until his death. He has at different times filled nearly all the offices in the town and city government of Bridgeport. He was a thoroughly self-made man and owed his success in life to his sagacity and



R. Tomlinson

energy. His character was intensely practical and his temperament calm and genial. Few men relished better a good story, or took more quiet pleasure in cheerful, social conversation. In politics he was first a Whig, then a very decided and earnest Republican.

He continued active in business to the close of life, and his ability, integrity and popularity placed him in the first rank of the successful manufacturers and valued citizens of New England.

Mr. Tomlinson married Feb. 10, 1831, Martha M., daughter of Capt. Lent M. Hitchcock, who died June 26, 1881. He married, second, Miss Mahalah Bell, in 1882, who still survives him.

He had three children: Mrs. William D. Bishop, of this city, Munson H. Tomlinson, deceased, and Stephen Tomlinson, also of this city. The sons were associated with their father in the Tomlinson Spring and Axle Company.

Hon. Amos Sherman Treat, son of Daniel A. and Almira (Sherman) Treat, was born in Bridgewater, Conn., February 5, 1816, being a lineal descendant of Richard Treat, one of the patentees in the Colonial charter, and of his son, Robert Treat, who was Governor of Connecticut. On the maternal side he was descended from Henry Shearman of England, who was born about 1490, and whose grandson Edmund came to America and was the father of Mr. Samuel Sherman, one of the first settlers at Stratford, Conn.

Gov. Robert Treat was one of the patentees of the township of New Milford, and his right of land there descended to his grandson, Joseph Treat, Jr., who gave the inheritance to his sons, John and Gideon, who settled upon it. Amos S. Treat was the grandson of this Gideon, and was raised on the old homestead of his grandfather. He prepared for college at Hudson, Ohio, and entered Yale College. Afterward he taught school in South Carolina, and then in New Jersey. He studied law with Hon. Jacob W. Miller of Norristown, N. J., and with C. R. Butler of Plymouth, Conn., and was admitted to the Litchfield county bar in 1843. He followed his profession ten years in Newtown, Conn., where he was a member of the Board of Education and took an active part in town affairs, being postmaster one year and Judge of Probate

two years, and then, in July, 1854, he came to Bridgeport, where he resided, with the exception of the time from May, 1871, to November, 1874, when he lived in Woodbridge, Conn. He was clerk of the Fairfield county court from 1854 to 1859; member of the Peace Congress of 1861; represented Bridgeport in the Legislature in 1858, 1862, 1869 and 1879, and Woodbridge in the same body in 1871, 1872 and 1873. He was Speaker of the House in 1872, chosen to that position by the republican party, of which he was a member from its organization. At the close of this session the House presented him with a valuable watch and chain as a token of their high appreciation of the courteous, proper and impartial manner in which he discharged the duties of Speaker.

In the Masonic fraternity Mr. Treat had taken a prominent position. He was made a Mason in 1855, and had held nearly all the offices of the order, including master. He also held nearly all the offices in Hamilton Commandery, in which he was created a Knight in 1858, and has been its Eminent Commander. He was Grand Commander of the State in 1868 and 1869. He was a thirty-third degree Mason, which is the highest rank in the order, and took an active part in Masonic matters to the last. Until his decease Mr. Treat was actively engaged in his profession, his later associate being Mr. Charles Sherwood of Bridgeport. He was president of the Bridgeport Gas Light Company, treasurer of the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, president of the Compressed Paper Box Company, a director in the "Standard Association" since its organization, and a stockholder in several other industrial concerns. He possessed considerable wealth, and with his family took every opportunity for social enjoyment.

Mr. Treat was a man of fine judicial mind; was an able lawyer and counselor, and his advice was widely sought. He was a republican and an astute politician, with views which were far-reaching and nearly always based upon sound premises. He was a strong and persistent opponent and a firm and reliable friend, and although shunning everything like ostentatious charity, he did many good works. He assisted many young business men at a time when their need was great and their friends few. He was a member of the North





Amos Stuart



Thomas L. Watson

Congregational Society and a regular attendant for many years at that church.

He married Miss Mary Clark, daughter of Treat Clark, of Woodbridge, Conn., December 15, 1869, who survives him with a daughter, Mary Clark Treat. He died April 24, 1886.

Colonel Thomas Lansdell Watson was born at Bridgeport, Conn., December 13th, 1847. His father was William Lansdell Watson, M.D., a graduate of the University of Baltimore, Md. His mother was Jeannette Nichols of Bridgeport, descended from the Nicholsons of Greenfield Hill. Thomas L. Watson was educated at Bridgeport and at the Military Institute at New Milford, with a view to West Point, which, owing to a temporary incapacity, was given up. His business career began as a clerk in the Farmer's Bank of Bridgeport; from there he went to the City National Bank, and left this to become a partner in the private banking and brokerage business with the late Daniel Hatch. The firm began Nov. 1st, 1866, as Hatch and Watson, and has been continued since the death of Mr. Hatch by Col. Watson as T. L. Watson & Co. Col. Watson extended his business to New York City in 1879 and became head of the firm of Watson & Gibson, which firm is in successful operation. Col. Watson has held positions of responsibility and trust both in Bridgeport and New York. He was treasurer of the Building Fund of the new St. John's Church, and for many years has been a member of the vestry of that church. He has been a director in the City National Bank, Auditor of the City Savings Bank and treasurer of the Board of Trade. Since the completion of the Boston and New York Air Line Railroad he has been a director and secretary of that road. He is also a director of the American Loan and Trust Company of New York City.

Col. Watson has for several years been a director in the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange of New York, and its predecessors, Chairman of its Finance Committee, and one of its Vice-Presidents. Since Jan. 1885, he has been President of the Fairfield County Agricultural Society. He

is President of a Gas Company, and a Water Company, in Illinois, and of a Gas Co. in New York. He accepted the position of paymaster on the staff of R. B. Fairchild, Colonel of the 4th Reg. Conn. National Guard, and was commissioned Lieutenant in that position, May 28th, 1877. He was promoted Aid-de-Camp to Gen. S. R. Smith, commanding the C. N. G., and commissioned Captain, July 6th, 1878. He was promoted to be Brigade Quartermaster with rank of Major, Jan. 30th, 1879, and elected Colonel of the 4th Regiment, C. N. G., which commission bears date April 23d, 1884. He is senior Colonel in the Connecticut National Guard, and was specially active in securing the present fine armory accommodations in Bridgeport. Col. Watson was tendered the position of Adjutant General of Connecticut by Governor Lounsbury, but declined the honor, preferring his earnest work of maintaining the high standard of excellence in his regiment. In politics he is a republican and has declined nominations to public office on several occasions. He is a member of the Union League and other leading New York Clubs. He lives in his handsome residence at Black Rock, and although having business connections in New York, is thoroughly identified with Connecticut interests.

Colonel Watson married May 4th, 1874, Alice Cheever Lyon, youngest daughter of the late Hanford Lyon, Esq., of Bridgeport. They have two children, Alice Lyon and Arthur Kent Watson.

Andrew L. Winton was born in Bridgeport, Conn., November 20, 1822, from which place he went to Weston in 1836 and remained on a farm, working summers and attending school at Weston academy winters. At the age of nineteen he taught school and two winter seasons afterwards. When twenty-two he engaged in a store with his brother at Easton and the next spring started a store for himself, on temperance principles, at a place called the "Devil's Den," on account of the intemperance in the place, and succeeded in business, leaving the place at the end of eight years without a grog shop in it, and went to Saugatuck, where, in 1853, he built a store and residence, and after continuing business thirteen



A. L. Britton



years sold out and left Saugatuck with about \$25,000. While at that place he was induced to take charge of a flouring mill about two miles above Westport, which he run successfully for three years. In 1863 he came to Bridgeport and purchased the Berkshire Mills, which were then very much in want of repairs. He at once commenced the work of improvement and is still at it, with good success in several directions.

A custom grist-mill was built in 1783 by William Pixlee and James French on the east side of the river, and in 1792 secured to them by charter, but that was afterwards bought by a Mr. Penny, who built the present mill on the west side and did a large trade in kiln dried meal for the West Indies. The mill then passed into the hands of General Enoch Foote, who continued the same business for a number of years. Then James Porter bought the property and while he owned it the dam and the east side mill went off in a flood. The dam was rebuilt but not the east side mill. The mill was afterward owned by Anson Ryan, then Wasson and Craft, then Ryan and Wells, and in 1863 passed into the hands of the present owner.

Mr. Winton has been a member of the Congregational church since 1842, and served as deacon at Westport. He has two sons: the eldest, David Terry Winton, is now the editor and publisher of a local newspaper at Hanover, Michigan, and Andrew Lincoln Winton, who was graduated at the high school in Bridgeport and at the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale College in 1884, and at once received an appointment at the State Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven, where he is now engaged, having been promoted.

Nathaniel Sherwood Wordin, son of Thomas C. and Ann (Sherwood) Wordin, was born July 12, 1813, in the house now standing on the corner of State street and West avenue, then the old Wordin homestead. He attended the district school; the house, then an octagonal building, stood where is now the harness manufactory of Wills and French; the Rev. Asa Bronson being the teacher, and also the pastor of the Stratfield Baptist Church, who drove from his home every morning, bringing a bundle of new whips, which he freely

used during the day; and taking his dinner at the "Bull's Head Hotel" across the way from the school house. Though severe in discipline he frequently gave certificates of credit to his pupils. The following is one given to young Wordin:

"The bearer of this humble scroll
For good behavior while at school
Must have that praise which is his due
From Parents, friends and Teacher, too.

ASA BRONSON."

It was while young Wordin was at school that the brick structure was taken down, and the wooden building, remembered by many, built in its place; and this enlarged school had the dignity of two departments; that of the boys taught by Rev. Mr. Wilcox, and the girls by Miss Lydia Ward. Mr. Wordin next attended the Easton Academy, taught by the Rev. Nathaniel Freeman, pastor of the Congregational Church. He then, at the age of fifteen, became a clerk in his father's drug store, on State street, which store was used in that business by different parties until 1879, when Mr. F. S. Stevens removed from it to Main street.

At the age of twenty-one Mr. Wordin became partner with his father in the store, and soon after assumed full control of it, the father giving his attention to his farm and his Norwalk flouring mills. On May 29, 1839, he married Fanny Augusta, youngest daughter of Doctor Frederick Leavenworth of Waterbury. They have had five children, one of whom died at the age of three years.

Mr. Wordin's drug store was the focal point for calls by physicians out of town, and sea-faring men needing medicines. He prepared medicine chests, with a little book, giving the name, dose and purpose of each drug, which earned for the druggist quite a reputation and the title "Doctor." Needing more room he contracted for the erection of a building on Water street, a portion of which is now occupied by Liebrum Brothers for a salesroom, and the upper part of it was used as a ball-room, called Wordin's Hall.

About 1850, he retired from active business, leaving the interests of the store to his brother, Thomas C. Wordin, and since that time has enjoyed the quietness of his home, yet by no means an inactive man.





N. J. Worden

He was for a time treasurer and one of the directors of the Bridgeport Mutual Savings Bank and Building Association; and also, director in the Farmer's Bank, now the First National, from 1854 to 1859. He was an incorporator and one of the first depositors of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, his deposit book being No. 10. He was also an incorporator of the Farmer's and Mechanics Savings Bank. He held the position of City Treasurer during the years 1841 to 1845, and of Assessor from 1859 to 1862, and from 1867 to 1868. In 1848, he numbered the houses of the city in obedience to the Common Council. In the militia he was commissioned, September 6, 1836, Surgeon's Mate in the 4th Regiment Light Artillery, by Colonel George Robbins. In music, his talent was largely, and advantageously to the public, exercised in the organization, November 11, 1852, and continuation of the Bridgeport Musical Society, of which he was the secretary.

He had a fine tenor voice, played the flute and violin, and double bass-viol, and was for many years the leader of the choir of the First Congregational Church, and made for their use a choice collection of sacred music, transcribed from the best authors with his own hand. He still holds the following:

"Mr. Daniel Sterling, Treasurer of the Stratfield Congregational Society, we hereby recommend that you pay to Mr. Nathaniel S. Wordin the sum of Twenty Dollars out of the money collected by contributions in aid of the Choir, it being for a Balance due him in the purchase of the Double Bass-Viol.

I. SHERMAN,

ISAAC M. CONKLIN,

"Sept. 25, 1839.

Society's Committee."

He united with the First Congregational Church in 1831, and is the oldest male member now living. He was chosen clerk of the Society in 1834, and filled that office with great faithfulness over fifty years, and in more than fifty meetings during that time he did not fail of being present to call the assembly to order, while his penmanship, in elegance and correctness for that length of time, is probably unequaled in the county. But, having been seriously affected with apoplexy in February, 1885, he resigned this place of benevolent service. Few men are more skillful with the pen and brush than he.

Drawing with India ink and a crayon was a favorite amusement to him, and the walls of his house are ornamented with oil paintings of his own execution. For one of these paintings he was awarded a prize at the State fair held in this city. The monument which he has erected in Mountain Grove Cemetery was modeled by himself and was one of the first erected there.

. **Thomas Cook Wordin**, son of William, Jr., and Dorcas (Cook) Wordin, was born in 1787, in a house that stood on the northeast corner of State street and Park avenue; the whole square running north to Fairfield avenue and east to the eastern boundary of Mr. N. S. Wordin's present residence on State street, being owned by his grandfather, Capt. William Wordin, who was a soldier in the Revolution, and which land he purchased in 1772, it being the first he bought in the town of Stratford.

When quite a lad Thomas C. became a clerk in the drug store of Samuel Darling of New Haven, and when twenty-one years of age he commenced the same business in this city occupying during all his active life a store located just west of the post office on State street, Samuel Kirtland's tailor establishment being next door west of him and Jesse Sterling's dry goods store the second. Some persons will remember the quaint business sign over the door—a female figure holding the scales, weighing the drugs.

This store was built by Mr. Wordin about 1816. The entire block, extending to the corner of Main street, was erected by a company, each one of five paying for his own portion. The land was hired from Squire Peet who lived on the site of the present post office. The leases were renewed every ten years, and when the occupant desired no longer to renew, Mr. Peet was, by the terms arranged, obliged to take the building at an appraised value.

In an advertisement in an old Bridgeport "Advertiser," dated October 13, 1808, "notice" is given that "Samuel Darling having entered into partnership with Thomas C. Wordin," the latter would attend to the business in Bridgeport and the former in New York, by which "it is expected they will be able to afford articles in their line much lower than can be





Thomas C. Wordin

sold by any other in the place, or in Connecticut;" and that they "are now opening, and offer for sale, a fresh assortment of MEDICINE AND PAINTS." He was successful in business, but always attributed this success to "his strictly upright and honest intentions," yet it is freely reported by those who knew him well that he was one of the most far-sighted and prompt business men of his day. Some very interesting anecdotes are told of him in the purchasing of goods just before the price went up to a high figure. He made no ostentatious appearance, any more than some of his descendants. Being in Boston at a large sale of opium, when that drug was scarce, the other buyers on consultation agreed to let him bid off the article rather than run it up to a high figure, as he would want—as they supposed from his appearance—only a little of it, and then they would take the greater part of it, to relieve him and so purchase for less money. After the sale one approached "the little country Doctor" with the inquiry, "how much will you take of the drug?" "I will take the whole," said he.

He married Ann, daughter of Philemon Sherwood, in 1812. About the close of the War of 1812-14, he left his wife and infant son for a trip to Boston on the sloop Othello commanded by Capt. Joel Thorp. They were captured by the British, and he had much difficulty in being released and returning home. His money, in notes, which he had concealed in his stockings, was ground into pieces. While he was gone, his wife becoming alarmed at the frequent reports that the British had landed to pillage Bridgeport, took her infant son before the morning dawn and walked to her father's house, a distance of nearly three miles. That infant is now Mr. Nataniel S. Wordin of State street.

Thomas C. Wordin was trained up in, and believed in Puritanical ideas, and his integrity, high personal honor, and unpretending life, were the consequences.

He was the owner of the Norwalk flouring mills, and after some years he remodeled them for grinding spices, and the first ground spices in the market in this vicinity were from his mills. He offered two thousand dollars towards establishing a green or public square west of Courtland street, but the

offer was not acted upon. He died November 20, 1852, aged 65 years. His children were: Nathaniel Sherwood; Susan, who married Charles Kelsey; Lucy, who married E. S. Hawley; Ann B., who married Deacon John W. Hincks; Caroline, who married W. W. Naramore; Thomas C., who married Betsey A. Plumb; Elizabeth; and four that died in childhood.

Peter W. Wren was born in New York City August 20th, 1847. By trade a printer, he became a resident of Bridgeport in 1870, organizing the firm of McMahon and Wren, wholesale Wine and Whisky Merchants. Starting in a small way and with limited capital, the firm by fair dealing, strict attention to business, and rare business qualifications, has built up a trade second to none in our State. Mr. Wren was elected a member of the Bridgeport Board of Education in 1881, and is still a member of the same body, having served as chairman of the Committee on Schools for several years to the entire satisfaction of the Board and of our citizens. In 1882 he was elected Representative to the General Assembly, and served with credit on the Finance Committee of the House. In 1885 he was elected President of the Board of Public Works, a new organization taking the place of the former board known as the Road and Bridge Commission, and the work of the new board, for completeness, efficiency and economy, merited and received the commendations of every citizen. He is a director of the Pequonnock National Bank. In politics he is a democrat and in religion is a member of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. In public, as well as private business, Mr. Wren merits the reputation which he has gained of sound judgment, capacity and enlightened public spirit.

In 1869 he married Hannah M. Carey, of New Haven Conn., and they have five children: Marion, George, Frederick, Sarah and Peter W. His residence is 322 State street.



JOHN W. WREN

J. W. Wren



Sam B. Green

Col. Samuel B. Sumner is a native of Great Barrington, Mass. His father was Increase Sumner, for a long time a leading lawyer in Western Massachusetts, for many years District Attorney for the District comprising the four western counties, several times a member of the Legislature in both branches, and once the Democratic candidate for Congress. At his decease he was Judge of the District Court for Southern Berkshire.

Col. Sumner's maternal grandfather was Hon. Samuel Barstow, M.D., a prominent physician in Great Barrington, after whom he was named.

After preparatory studies at Great Barrington and Lenox Academies, he entered Williams College where he was graduated in 1849, and in 1852 he was admitted to the bar in Berkshire County, where he commenced law practice in company with his father.

He was Postmaster at Great Barrington during the Pierce and Buchanan administrations, and in 1860 was State Senator from the South Berkshire District, comprising the seventeen towns south of Pittsfield.

In 1862 he enlisted in the 49th Regiment, Mass. Volunteers; was Captain of a company and afterwards promoted to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the Regiment. He was wounded by a bullet in the shoulder at the assault on Port Hudson, La., on May 27, 1863.

Returning from the war he removed to Bridgeport where he had married his wife, and resumed practice of the law. He has been several times City Attorney, once City Judge, and for four years Judge of Probate. For six years he was law-partner of Judge Sidney B. Beardsley, the firm being Beardsley & Sumner.

He was appointed Clerk of the Courts, Supreme and Superior, for Fairfield County in 1884, which office he now holds.

Col. Sumner is widely known as a poetic orator on public occasions, and in conjunction with his brother, Ex-Congressman Charles A. Sumner, of California, published a volume of poems in 1877, which has, since that time, passed

through enlarged editions. Some of these poems have been delivered on special occasions of such interest as to become of historical value in the future.

He is a member of the Elias Howe, Jr. Post of the Grand Army, and honorary member of the Society of the Army of Potomac, before which he delivered the poem at the Annual Re-union at Hartford in 1881. He has been Noble Grand of Arcanum Lodge, I. O. O. F., and has been W. M. of Cincinnati Lodge of the F. and A. M. of Great Barrington three years, and three years Eminent Commander of Hamilton Commandery of the Knights Templars.

Col. Sumner married in 1855, Georgiana Davis of Bridgeport, recently deceased. He has a son, Edward Stewart Sumner, a lawyer, and three daughters, one the wife of C. C. Godfrey, M.D., and all are residents of Bridgeport.



Old Militia Records, 1817 to 1847.

From the Orderly Book for the *Fifth Company, First Regiment, Light Artillery*, Bridgeport, Conn., in possession of the Fairfield County Historical Society, we extract the following muster roll for September 1, 1817:

John Fayerweather,.....	Captain.	Alanson F. Lewis,.....	1st Corpl.
Stephen Hawley,	1st Lieut.	Solomon Curtis, Jr.,	2d "
Vacant,.....	2d "	Starr Peck,.....	3d "
Charles Foote, ..	1st Sergt.	Peter C. Pixley,	4th "
Albert E. Sherwood,	2d "	Arnold Hurd,	Fifer.
James French, Jr.,.....	3d "	David Hubbell,.....	Drummer.
Philip P. Porter,	4th "		

Privates.

Ephraim French, Jr.	Josiah M. Nichols.	Samuel Peet.
Lewis W. Hubbell.	Henry Judson.	Plumb Nichols.
Wakeman Hull.	David Judson.	Burton Gray.
Mitchel C. Peet.	Philo Nichols.	Joseph Silliman.
Sterling Hull.	Anson Beardslee.	Daniel Bulkley.
Lemuel Hubbell.	Morriss Platt.	Levi Turney.
Joel Mitchel.	Roswell S. Nichols.	Abijah Morehouse.
Judson Curtis, Jr.	Eli Curtis.	Alvin Curtis.
Johnson Tuttle.	Ezra Wheeler.	Oliver L. Beardslee.
Joseph E. Mallet.	David Fayerweather.	Elijah Peet, Jr.
David Mallet, 3d.	Bill W. Peet.	Daniel O. Wheeler.
Asa French.	Charles Sherwood.	

From the same record under date of May 5, 1823, we find the following roll of officers and men:

Charles Foote,	Captain.	Isaac E. Beach,.....	3d Sergt.
Albert E. Sherwood,.....	1st Lieut.	William B. Thomas,	4th "
Philip P. Porter,	2d "	Beard Blackman,.....	Fifer.
Peter C. Pixley,	1st Sergt.	Elias Hodge,	Drummer.
James A. Clifford,.....	2d "	Nathaniel B. Booth,	"

Privates.

Alpha Carrier.	David I. Hawley.	John Lyon.
Alfred Turney.	Ezra Peet.	John W. Beardsley.
Asa French.	Elijah Peet.	Josiah Hubbell.
Alvin Curtis.	Ephraim Middlebrook.	Lewis Turney.
Anson Hawley.	Ephraim French, Jr.	Lewis W. Hubbell.
Agur Pixlee.	Ezra Wheeler.	Lewis Fitch (removed).
Bill W. Peet.	Ezra Morehouse.	Moses Platt.
Charles Sherwood.	Fitch Taylor.	Monson Seeley.
Charles Wakley.	Gideon Thompson.	Mitchel C. Peet.
Charles L. Nichols.	George W. Lewis.	Roswell Seeley.
Charles Hubbell.	Henry Judson.	Stephen Hull, Jr.
Charles Crocker.	Hanford Lyon.	Wakeman Hull.
Chauncey Lum.	Halpin Blake.	Wm. H. Youngs (removed).
David Mallett, 3d..	Ira Curtis.	Lemuel Hubbell
David C. Booth.	Ira Bliss.	David Hubbell
Daniel O. Wheeler.	Joel Mitchel.	Sterling Hull

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With September 17, 1825, the Orderly Book for the Fifth Company, First Regiment, Light Artillery, ceases, and that of the *Second Company, Fourth Regiment, Light Artillery, Bridgeport*, commences.

The first entries are May 24, 1826, and Peter C. Pixley is Captain, Daniel B. Oviatt, 1st Lieutenant, and Elias A. Hall, 2d Lieutenant.

In 1830, September 11, we find the following full muster roll of Second Company, Fourth Regiment :

Nelson Burroughs, -----	Captain.	Divine Chatfield, -----	2d Corpl.
George Robbins, -----	1st Lieut.	Bard Blakeman, -----	Fifer.
Shelton B. Stratton, -----	2d "	William Thompson, -----	"
Henry W. Stillman, -----	1st Sergt.	Frederick W. Parrott, -----	Drummer.
Ira Bartram, -----	2d "	Frederick Lathrop, -----	"
Harry Bray, -----	3d "	David Beach, -----	Bass drummer.
Charles A. Turney, -----	4th "	Madison A. Treat, -----	" "
John Tucker, -----	1st Corpl.		

Privates.

Asa French.	Harpin Blake.	Monson Smith.
Anson Hawley.	John W. Beardsley.	Robert Turney.
Alfred Hawley.	John Hall.	Sidney N. Lewis.
Benjamin Lewis.	James H. Winton.	Seth L. Stratton.
Charles W. Lewis.	Justus Allen.	William E. Ells.
Caleb Tomlinson.	John Hayes.	George Crawford.
Charles H. Wakley.	James Downs.	Elbert Hawley.
David Middlebrooks.	Jeduthan Thompson.	Burton Gray.
David Meeker.	John Barton.	Charles H. Peck.
Ezra Peet.	Lewis Turney.	Elam Nichols.
Elijah Peet.	Lewis Burr.	William M. Dunning.
Ezra Wheeler.	Lorrin Nichols.	John E. Chatfield.
	Ezra D. Smith.	

Absentees.

Roswell Seeley.	Munson Seeley.	William Ward.
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Ten years later, September 7, 1840, we find the following muster roll of the Second Company, Fourth Regiment, Light Artillery, of Bridgeport :

Officers and Men.

Aaron B. B. Downs, -----	1st Lieut.	Sheldon Beach, -----	3d Sergt.
Ira W. Peet, -----	2d "	Moses O. Banks, -----	1st Corpl.
Fenelon Hubbell, -----	1st Sergt.	John J. Stillman, -----	2d "
Thomas Stillman, -----	2d "	Bryant Parrott, -----	Drummer.

Privates.

Elbert Hawley.	Sherwood Stratton.	Matthew Lord.
Henry Hurd.	George B. Smith.	Payton R. Bishop.
Johnson Hayes.	William G. Nichols.	William Blake.
Roswell Whiting.	Abija L. Peet.	James Robertson.



Military Rolls.

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Absentees.

Benjamin W. Ward (not warned).	Robert J. Mills (not warned).	Abijah Taylor (not warned).
Stephen S. Sterling "	George M. Benjamin "	Sheldon H. Nichols "
Morris Crawford "	Chauncey Keeler "	John Parrott "
Frederick N. Hurd "	Wm. M. Dunning "	William Squires "
Benjamin Lewis (sick).	Sillick Nichols "	John G. Taylor "
Charles N. Olmstead (not warned).	Sidney N. Lewis (fined).	Christopher Beardsley "
David Middlebrook "	Benjamin Stillman (not warned).	William L. Wheeler "
Ephraim C. Young (fined).	James H. Winton "	Nathan B. Abbott "
James Downs (not warned).	Jarvis Polly "	John W. Beardsley (fined 35)
John Stevenson "	Edward Jones "	Alanson Beardsley "
		Charles W. Lewis "

Passing down to 1843, on May 1st we find the following roll of officers and men who "appeared at the usual place of parade and were inspected :"

Fenelon Hubbell,.....Captain.	William B. Johnson,.....3d Sergt.
Thomas U. Stillman,.....1st Lieut.	John F. Bartlett,.....4th "
George B. Smith,.....2d "	George Goulden,.....1st Corpl.

Privates.

Matthew Lord.	John Stevenson.	Curtis Ritch.
Hezekiah Lockwood.	William G. Nichols.	Thomas Lewis.
Peyton R. Bishop.	Bryant Parrott.	Fred. G. Schutz.
	Abraham Couch.	

On May 5, 1845, the following is the entry for the parade of that date :

Fenelon Hubbell,.....Captain.	Frederick Stillman,.....2d Sergt.
Thomas U. Stillman,.....1st Lieut.	John F. Bartlett,.....3d "
G. B. Smith,.....2d "	

Privates.

Hezekiah Lockwood.	Andrew Holste.	Barzila Banks.
Abraham Couch.	William E. Johnson.	Wheeler Beers.
Thomas Lewis.	Edgar Blake.	Abraham Hendrickson.
Rodney N. Burrett.	Levi Silliman.	William N. Bartrom.
Burritt W. Humiston.	Levi H. Hubbell.	George Goulden.

Gunners.

Wilson Beardsley.	Clark Seeley.	Lewis M. Seeley.
Elias N. Plumb.	William Seeley.	

Musicians.

Curtis Ritch.	Henry B. Seeley.	Peyton R. Bishop.
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Absentees.

James Parkerton.	Lemuel B. Sherman.	Lemuel Wilkins.
Frederick G. Schultz.	Wakeman W. Wells.	Henry Kimball.
	Bryant Parrott (drummer).	



The last muster roll is in 1847, under date of October 19th, and is as follows

1847.			
Silas D. Baldwin,.....	Captain.	Wakeman W. Wells,.....	1st Sergt.
John F. Bartlett,.....	1st Lieut.	Lyman B. Munson,.....	2d "
Levi G. Silliman,.....	2d "	Theodore Skidmore,.....	3d "
Wheeler Beers,.....	3d "	Samuel W. Reemer,.....	4th "

Privates.

Barzila Banks.	Henry Kimball.	William Seeley.
Abraham Couch.	Thomas Lewis.	Elias N. Plumb.
Levi H. Hubbell.	Clark Seeley.	George N. Morehouse.
Henry Hubbell.	Lewis N. Seeley.	William Bartram.
Wilson Beardsley.		

We cannot leave this very valuable old military relic and interesting historical record without transcribing from the last page the following, which tells the story of its rescue and preservation :

"This book was purchased from a dealer in paper stock by J. S. Hanover in the year 1866, and preserved by him until its presentation to the Fairfield Historical Society, August 8, 1882.—J. S. H."

From the "Inspection Return" of the "Republican Grays," the Third Flank Company of the Fourth Regiment of Infantry, Bridgeport, 1839," we make the following abstract :

Officers and Men—Names and Rank.

James Sacket,.....	Captain.	William E. Booth,.....	Sergt.
Monson H. Hyde,.....	Lieut.	David Hull,.....	Corpl.
Charles B. Hubbell,.....	Ensign.	Charles B. Nichols,.....	"
Stiles Hurd,.....	Sergt.	A. C. Higgins,.....	"
David Falconer,.....	"	Henry Hinman,.....	"
Seymour Whiting,.....	"		
Charles Edwards.	William Beebe.	Edward Taylor.	
Charles Waterbury.	William Shelton.	Charles Spinning.	
Charles Wordin.	George Hyde.	Edward Crocker.	
Jesse Bradley.	Jacob Gurnsey.	Edward Nichols.	
Sherman Wood.	Theodore Burr.	Edward Smith.	
Henry Hill.	Henry Booth.	Henry Hall.	
James Pennoyer.			

The abstract of the return shows 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 drummer, 1 fifer, 1 bugler, and 24 privates, in all 34 (present and absent). Also, 18 uniforms, 3 swords, 20 muskets, 20 bayonets, 20 cartridge boxes, 20 bayonet scabbards and belts, no spare flints, 20 priming wires, no powder horns, loose balls, pouches or knapsacks. A most formidable showing.

*Elias Howe, Jr., Post, No. 3, G. A. R.,*²⁰ *Department of Connecticut.*—From records compiled by George W. Keeler, of Elias Howe, Jr.,

²⁰ No correct list of the soldiers in the late Rebellion is to be had. A list corrected and published by the State will soon be given to the public. In view of these facts only the record of the Grand Army of the Republic in the Post at Bridgeport is given.

Post, No. 3, G. A. R., it is shown that a convention of the delegates representing the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic organized in the State of Connecticut, was held at Hartford, April 11, 1867, at which time a permanent department of the order was organized, to be known as the *Department of Connecticut, Grand Army of the Republic*, Edward Harland, of Norwich, being elected Grand Commander. The department was divided into four districts, similar in extent with the Congressional districts of the State. District No. 4 was placed under command of Gen. Wm. H. Noble, of Post No. 3, who appointed as his assistant Adjutant General Captain William L. Hubbell, and as A. Q. M. G. S. M. Nichols, also members of Post No. 3.

The charter of Post No. 3 was granted and dated April 15, 1867, with the following named veterans as *charter members*: William H. Noble, James E. Dunham, Albert W. Peck, J. R. Cumming, William H. Lacey, E. A. Stebbins, S. M. Nichols, Samuel E. Blinn, Wheeler Hawley, H. L. Cowles. On April 25, 1867, the above named comrades met in Gen. William H. Noble's office (Sturdevant building), and post No. 3 was duly organized by Gen. William H. Noble, commanding the fourth district of the department.

At this meeting the following officers were elected to serve until election, to take place in July, 1867: James E. Dunham, Post Commander; William H. Lacey, S. V. Commander; J. R. Cumming, M.D., J. V. Commander; Albert W. Peck, Adjutant; Philip B. Segee, Quartermaster; J. R. Cumming, M.D., Surgeon.

S. M. Nichols was appointed Officer of the Day; Samuel E. Blinn was appointed Officer of the Guard; S. W. Hawley, sentinel at the outpost; J. V. Commander, sentinel on duty at the reserve.

July, 1867, following comrades were elected officers for ensuing six months: James E. Dunham, P. C.; William H. Lacey, S. V. C.; Henry L. Coles, J. V. C.; Albert W. Peck,²¹ Adj.; Philip B. Segee, Q. M.; J. R. Cumming, M.D., Surgeon; William H. May, Chaplain.

January, 1868, following comrades were elected officers for ensuing six months: Samuel E. Blinn, P. C.; Alfred B. Beers, S. V. C.; John M. Speidel, J. V. C.; John G. Stephens, Adj.; George A. Staples, Q. M.; A. D. Powers, Surgeon; ———, Chaplain.

W. W. Pardee was appointed Officer of the Day; C. F. Hall was appointed Officer of the Guard.

June 25, 1868, following comrades were elected officers for ensuing six months: Samuel E. Blinn, P. C.; Alfred B. Beers, S. V. C.; John M. Speidel,²² J. V. C.; John G. Stevens, Adj.; George A. Staples, Q. M.; Gustave Ohnesorg, M.D., Surgeon; George A. Parkington, Chaplain; William F. Daly, Sergt. Major; William H. Bowman, Q. M. Sergt.

December, 1868, following comrades were elected officers for six months ensuing: Alfred B. Beers, P. C.; Henry L. Sturges, S. V. C.; George A. Staples, J. V. C.; Rod S. Beers, Adj.; C. F. Hale, Q. M.; A. H. Abernathy, Surgeon; George A. Parkington, Chaplain; William E. Disbrow, Sergt. Major; L. M. Louvelle, Q. M. Sergt.

²¹ A. W. Peck resigned as Adjutant and J. G. Stevens appointed in place.

²² J. M. Speidel resigned as J. V. C. July 23, 1868, and H. L. Sturges elected August 6, 1868.

Janier Bozworth was appointed Officer of the Day ; ——— Stolpher was appointed Officer of the Guard.

June 24, 1869, the following comrades were elected officers for six months ensuing: Alfred B. Beers, P. C.; George A. Staples, S. V. C.; Thomas Boudren, J. V. C.; Rod S. Beers, Adj.; C. F. Hale, Q. M.; George A. Parkington, Chaplain; A. H. Abernathy, M.D., Surgeon; Russ Glenn, Sergt. Major; F. W. Wales, Q. M. Sergt.

W. W. Walker was appointed Officer of the Day; John A. Ludford²³ was appointed Officer of the Guard.

December 30, 1869, the following comrades were elected officers for six months ensuing: George A. Staples, P. C.; William F. Dailey, S. V. C.; Rod S. Beers, J. V. C.; Henry M. Capper,²⁴ Adj.; F. N. Cox, Q. M.; W. B. Nichols, Surgeon; George A. Parkington, Chaplain; Fred Goodrich, O. of D.; Russ Glenn,²⁵ O. of G.; William Finnemore, Sergt. Major; Norval Green, Q. M. Sergt.

June 30, 1870, the following comrades were elected officers for six months ensuing: George A. Parkington, P. C.; David B. Lockwood, S. V. C.; Reuben Blake, J. V. C.; Lyman L. Rose, Adj.; Frederick N. Cox, Q. M.; Charles S. Wells, Surgeon; Charles W. Scarritt, Chaplain; James Cahill, O. of D.; Stephen Weaver, O. of G.; William C. Geddes, Sergt. Major; Norval Green, Q. M. Sergt.; Frederick M. Wilmot, Drum Major.

January 5, 1871, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1871): George A. Parkington,²⁶ P. C.; Reuben Blake,²⁷ S. V. C.; John Cahill, J. V. C.; Lyman L. Rose,²⁸ Adj.; Dwight H. Cowles,²⁹ Q. M.; Charles H. Wells,³⁰ Surgeon; Charles W. Scarritt, Chaplain; D. H. Jennings, O. of D.; Stephen Weaver, O. of G.; William C. Geddes, Sergt. Major; F. A. King,³¹ Q. M. Sergt.; Fred Wilmot, Drum Major.

December 21, 1871, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1872): Rod S. Beers, P. C.; Thomas C. Coats, S. V. C.; William R.

²³ J. A. Ludford resigned October 21, 1869, and S. C. Paul elected to fill vacancy.

²⁴ J. T. Platt appointed adjutant February 3, 1870, vice Capper resigned, and served to end of term.

²⁵ A. DeForest elected O. G. March 10, 1870, vice Glen, resigned. A. DeForest elected O. D. April 7, 1870, vice Goodrich, resigned. James Cahill elected O. G. April 7, 1870, vice DeForest, promoted.

²⁶ William F. Dailey elected P. C. March 16, 1871, vice Parkington, resigned. George A. Staples elected P. C. August 24, 1871, vice Dailey, resigned, and served to end of term.

²⁷ S. V. C. Blake and J. V. C. Cahill both resigned before expiration of their term. Rod S. Beers was elected S. V. C. and Fred N. Cox J. V. C., and served to end of term.

²⁸ L. L. Rose resigned as Adjutant July 20, 1871, and Henry W. Stevens was elected to serve balance of term.

²⁹ William E. Disbrow elected, but declined to serve. June 15, 1871, D. H. Cowles resigned as Q. M. and comrade Disbrow was elected to fill the vacancy.

³⁰ A. H. Abernathy elected Surgeon November 9, 1871, vice Wells, resigned.

³¹ C. B. Downs appointed Q. M. S. vice King, resigned.

Palmer, J. V. C.; Henry W. Stevens,³² Adj. (appointed); William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; George F. Lewis, M.D., Surgeon; Charles W. Scarritt, Chaplain; T. P. Callahan, O. of D.; Charles Shailer, O. of G.; Henry C. Larramie, Sergt. Major (appointed); John R. Kimball, Q. M. Sergt. (appointed).

January 2, 1873, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year: James Bozworth, P. C.; Charles Rawlings, S. V. C.; Charles M. Shailer, J. V. C.; Chauncey B. Downs,³³ Adj. (appointed); William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; F. J. Young, M.D., Surgeon; Charles W. Scarritt, Chaplain; T. P. Callahan, O. of D.; Henry W. Stevens,³⁴ O. of G.; Edward Ward, Sergt. Major (appointed); John R. Kimball, Q. M. Sergt. (appointed); J. G. Cornell, Drum Major.

December 18, 1873, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1874): William E. Disbrow, P. C.; T. P. Callahan, S. V. C.; Norval Green,³⁵ J. V. C.; Harry C. Isard, Adj. (appointed); John R. Kimball, Q. M.; A. H. Abernathy, M.D., Surgeon; Charles W. Scarritt, Chaplain; James H. Burnes, O. of D.; Charles Dimond, O. of G.; ———, Sergt. Major; ———, Q. M. Sergt.; ———, Drum Major.

December 30, 1874, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1875): William E. Disbrow, P. C.; T. P. Callahan,³⁶ S. V. C.; John Oliver, J. V. C.; Henry W. Stevens, Adj. (appointed); John R. Kimball, Q. M.; Robert Landen, M.D., Surgeon; George Hill, Chaplain; Charles Dimond,³⁷ O. of D.; George C. Carpenter, O. of G.; Charles E. Moore, Sergt. Major (appointed); Moses Mills, Q. M. Sergt. (appointed).

December 30, 1875, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1876): William E. Disbrow, P. C.; John Oliver, S. V. C.; Charles E. Moore, J. V. C.; John S. Caroli,³⁸ Adj.; John R. Kimball,³⁹ Q. M.; A. H. Abernathy, M.D., Surgeon; Rev. Daniel O. Ferris, Chaplain; John A. Ludford, O. of D.; George E. Betts, O. of G.; William H. Downs, Sergt. Major; Joseph Kiley, Q. M. Sergt.

December 7, 1876, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing

³² Henry W. Stevens resigned as Adjutant July 1, 1872, and Chauncey B. Downs appointed to fill the position.

³³ C. B. Downs resigned as Adjutant September 11, 1873, and H. C. Isard appointed to fill vacancy.

³⁴ H. W. Stevens resigned as O. G. January 16, 1873. W. C. Geddes elected January 23, 1873.

³⁵ N. Green resigned J. V. C. May 14, 1874. John Oliver elected to fill vacancy May 21, 1874.

³⁶ T. P. Callahan resigned September 9, 1875, and John Oliver elected September 16, 1875, to fill vacancy. Oliver Treadwell elected to J. V. C., vice Oliver, promoted.

³⁷ Charles Dimond resigned O. D. October 7, 1875, and George C. Carpenter elected October 14, 1875, to fill vacancy. John A. Ludford elected O. G., vice Carpenter, promoted.

³⁸ J. S. Caroli resigned as Adjutant August 10, 1876, and George W. Keeler was appointed to position August 24, 1876.

³⁹ J. R. Kimball resigned as Q. M. September 14, 1876, and Ansil H. Couch elected to fill vacancy September 21, 1876.

year (1877): William E. Disbrow,⁴⁰ P. C.; Henry W. Stevens, S. V. C.; George E. Betts, J. V. C.; George W. Keeler, Adj.; Ansil H. Couch,⁴¹ Q. M.; A. A. Holmes, M.D., Surgeon; Rev. D. O. Ferris, Chaplain; John A. Ludford, O. of D.; Richard A. Clancey, O. of G.; Will H. Weicht,⁴² Sergt. Major; Fred. L. Warren,⁴³ Q. M. Sergt.

December 6, 1877, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1878): George A. Staples,⁴⁴ P. C.; John Oliver,⁴⁵ S. V. C.; E. J. Sherwood,⁴⁶ J. V. C.; George W. Keeler, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; A. A. Holmes, Surgeon; Lewis G. Logan, Chaplain; Richard A. Clancey, O. of D.; Charles E. Williams,⁴⁷ O. of G.; John Burke,⁴⁸ Sergt. Major; Frederick A. Booth, Q. M. Sergt.

December 5, 1878, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1879): Julius W. Knowlton,⁴⁹ P. C.; John A. Ludford, S. V. C.; Terrance O'Brien, J. V. C.; George W. Keeler, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; A. A. Holmes, M.D., Surgeon; Lewis G. Logan, Chaplain; Richard A. Clancey, O. of D.; Joseph Tyler, O. of G.; Will H. Weicht, Sergt. Major; Frederick A. Booth, Q. M. Sergt.

December 4, 1879, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1880): Lewis G. Logan, P. C.; Richard A. Clancey,⁵⁰ S. V. C.; Terrance O'Brien, J. V. C.; George W. Keeler, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; Byron

⁴⁰ W. E. Disbrow resigned as P. C. October 11, 1877. Henry W. Stevens was elected October 18, 1877, to fill the vacancy, and November 1, 1877, George E. Betts, J. V. C., was elected S. V. C., vice Stevens, promoted, and November 8, 1877, E. J. Sherwood was elected J. V. C., vice Betts, promoted.

⁴¹ A. H. Couch resigned as Q. M. August 2, 1877, and Birdsey L. Sherman was elected to fill vacancy August 9, 1877, and resigned same October 11, 1877. W. E. Disbrow was elected October 8, 1877, to fill vacancy.

⁴² W. H. Weicht resigned as S. M. August 16, 1877, and Charles E. Williams appointed to fill vacancy September 6, 1877.

⁴³ F. L. Warren resigned as Q. M. S. September 6, 1877, and L. L. Rose appointed to fill position same date, but declined the honor.

⁴⁴ First ballot Alfred B. Beers received nearly every vote, but declined to accept position.

⁴⁵ John Oliver died July 5, 1878. John A. Ludford elected July 25, 1878, to fill vacancy.

⁴⁶ E. J. Sherwood resigned July 18, 1878, as J. V. C. George E. Luinscoe elected July 25, 1878, to fill vacancy.

⁴⁷ C. E. Williams resigned position O. G. March 28, 1878. Joseph Tyler elected April 4, 1878, to fill vacancy.

⁴⁸ John Burke resigned August 15, 1878, and W. H. Lyon appointed to fill position.

⁴⁹ J. W. Knowlton declined to accept position of P. C., and Lewis G. Logan was elected to position, W. H. Lyon being elected as Chaplain, vice Logan, promoted.

⁵⁰ R. A. Clancey declined to serve as S. V. C., and Christian Quien was elected December 18, 1879, to fill position, and R. A. Clancey was elected O. D. at same time and resigned same April 29, 1880, when Will H. Weicht was elected to fill position. William H. Downs was elected O. G., vice Weicht, promoted.



W. Munson, Surgeon; William H. Lyon, Chaplain; Christian Quien, O. of D.; Will H. Weicht, O. of G.; Edward F. Clark, Sergt. Major; Frederick A. Booth, Q. M. Sergt.

December 2, 1880, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1881): Lewis G. Logan,⁵¹ P. C.; Christian Quien,⁵² S. V. C.; William H. Hine, J. V. C.; George W. Keeler, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; Byron W. Munson, Surgeon; William H. Gray, Chaplain; Joseph Tyler, O. of D.; Marcus E. Comstock, O. of G.; John P. Jaquith, Sergt. Major; Bradley Banks,⁵³ Q. M. Sergt.

December 1, 1881, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1882): George W. Keeler, P. C.; Richard A. Clancey,⁵⁴ S. V. C.; Joseph Tyler, J. V. C.; Will H. Weicht, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; Byron W. Munson, Surgeon; Daniel Worcester, Chaplain; Marcus E. Comstock,⁵⁵ O. of D.; William Derringer, O. of G.; John P. Jaquith, Sergt. Major; Charles E. Moore, Q. M. Sergt.

December 7, 1882, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1883): Daniel Worcester, P. C.; Joseph Tyler, S. V. C.; William Derringer, J. V. C.; John P. Jaquith,⁵⁶ Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; Byron W. Munson, Surgeon; James L. Green, Chaplain; William H. Lyon, O. of D.; Henry H. Smith, O. of G.; David R. Waters,⁵⁷ Sergt. Major; George W. Keeler, Q. M. Sergt.

December 6, 1883, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1884): Daniel Worcester,⁵⁸ P. C.; Joseph Tyler,⁵⁹ S. V. C.; William Derringer, J. V. C.; Charles E. Moore, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; Byron W. Munson, Surgeon; Henry Stephens, Chaplain; Henry H. Smith,⁶⁰ O. of D.;

⁵¹ L. G. Logan resigned as P. C. October 13, 1881. October 20, 1881, George W. Keeler was elected for unexpired term.

⁵² C. Quien resigned as S. V. C. July 14, 1881. July 21, 1881, William H. Hine was elected to fill position, F. L. Warren being elected J. V. C., vice Hine, promoted. Will H. Weicht was appointed Adjutant by Commander Keeler.

⁵³ B. Banks resigned as Q. M. S. October 27, 1881, and C. E. Moore was appointed to fill vacancy.

⁵⁴ R. A. Clancey refused to accept position S. V. C. January 19, 1882, Lewis G. Logan was elected to fill vacancy.

⁵⁵ M. E. Comstock resigned position O. D. June 29, 1882. July 6, 1882, William Derringer was elected O. D. to fill vacancy. W. H. Lyon was elected O. G., vice Derringer, promoted.

⁵⁶ J. P. Jaquith resigned position Adjutant September 20, 1883, and C. E. Moore was appointed to fill vacancy. George C. Stewart was appointed S. M., vice Moore, resigned.

⁵⁷ D. R. Waters resigned position S. M. January 18, 1883, and C. E. Moore was appointed to position.

⁵⁸ D. Worcester resigned position P. C. September 25, 1884. W. Derringer elected to fill vacancy October 2, 1884.

⁵⁹ J. Tyler resigned position S. V. C. June 5, 1884. June 12, 1884, W. Derringer elected to fill vacancy. Thomas Boudren was elected J. V. C., vice Derringer, promoted. When Derringer promoted P. C. promoted S. V. C. James P. Smith, promoted J. V. C.

⁶⁰ H. H. Smith resigned position C. D. August 14, 1884. James P. Smith was

James P. Smith, O. of G.; George C. Stewart, Sergt. Major; George W. Keeler, Q. M. Sergt.

December 4, 1884, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1885): William H. Lyon, P. C.; Thomas Boudren, S. V. C.; Eugene Ward, J. V. C.; William H. Hine, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; Byron W. Munson, M.D., Surgeon; Henry Stephens, Chaplain; George C. Stewart, O. of D.; Stephen Wright, O. of G.; Fred L. Warren, Sergt. Major; George W. Keeler, Q. M. Sergt.

December 3, 1885, the following comrades were elected officers for ensuing year (1886): Thomas Boudren, P. C.; Eugene Ward, S. V. C.; George C. Stewart, J. V. C.; George W. Keeler, Adj.; William E. Disbrow, Q. M.; George L. Porter, M.D., Surgeon; Warren W. Porter,⁶¹ Chaplain; Henry A. North, O. of D.; Henry Crofutt, O. of G.

Members of Post No. 3 who have been honored with Department and National office :

William H. Noble, Commander Fourth District, Depart Conn., 1867.

William L. Hubbell, A. A. G., Fourth District, Dept. Conn., 1867.

S. M. Nichols, A. Q. M. G., Fourth District, Dept. Conn., 1867.

William H. Mallory, J. V. Grand Commander, Dept. Conn., 1868; S. V. Grand Commander, Dept. Conn., 1869; Grand Commander, Dept. Conn., 1870 and 1871.

Louis N. Middlebrook, C. of A., Dept. Conn., 1869 and 1871; Judge Advocate, Dept. Conn., 1870, 1872 and 1873.

Alfred B. Beers, Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1869 and 1872; C. of A., Dept. Conn., 1873; J. V. Commander, Dept. Conn., 1878 and 1879; S. V. Commander, Dept. Conn., 1880; Commander, Dept. Conn., 1881; Commander Fitch's Home, 1882.

George A. Staples, Delegate National Encampment, 1871; Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1871; A. Q. M. G., Dept. Conn., 1876, 1877 and 1881.

Rod S. Beers, C. of A., Dept. Conn., 1872; Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1873.

William E. Disbrow, J. V. Commander, Dept. Conn., 1873; S. V. Commander, Dept. Conn., 1874 and 1875; Commander, Dept. Conn., 1876 and 1877.

John Oliver, Asst. Inspector General (National), 1875.

T. P. Callahan, Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1875.

Rev. D. O. Ferris, Chaplain, Dept. Conn., 1876 and 1877.

Julius W. Knowlton, A. A. G., Dept. Conn., 1876 and 1877; C. of A. (National), 1878; Delegate National Encampment, 1880.

Charles E. Moore, Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1876 and 1877; C. of A., Dept. Conn., 1878 and 1879.

Lewis G. Logan, C. M. O., Dept. Conn., 1879; C. of A., Dept. Conn., Delegate National Encampment, A. D. C. (National), 1882; Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1883.

Joseph Tyler, A. D. C. (National), 1882.

Will H. Weicht, A. D. C. (National), 1882.

elected to fill vacancy. Ulrich Burghardt being elected O. G., vice Smith, promoted, was elected O. D., vice Smith, promoted J. V. C. Philo A. Morris elected O. G., vice Burghardt, elected O. D.

⁶¹ W. W. Porter declined to be installed as Chaplain and Henry Stephens was elected to the position.

Henry Huss, C. of A. (National), 1876 and 1877.
George W. Keeler, A. A. G., Dept. Conn., 1881; C. M. O., Dept. Conn., 1883; Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1884; Commander Fitch's Home, 1885 and 1886.
George E. Betts, A. A. A. G., Dept. Conn., 1881.
Henry M. Hoyt, A. D. C. (National), 1881.
John C. Copeland, A. D. C., Dept. Conn., 1882; A. D. C. (National), 1886.
Fred L. Warren, C. of A., Dept. Conn., 1883, 1884, 1885 and 1886.
Daniel Worcester, Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1884; A. D. C., (National), 1885.
William H. Lyon, Asst. Inspector, Dept. Conn., 1884.
Byron W. Munson, Med. Director, Dept. Conn., 1885.
Thomas Boudren, Delegate National Encampment, 1869 and 1886.
Samuel J. Chaffee, A. D. C. (National), 1885.
George C. Stewart, Asst. Inspector, 1886.

Historical Notes.

The Post was organized in the office of Gen. William H. Noble, in Sturdevant building, April 25, 1867, and it continued to hold its meetings there until June 29, 1867, when Lafayette Hall was secured and meetings were held there until December 19, 1867, when it removed to Good Templars' Hall. March 19, 1868, removed to Odd Fellows' Hall, as then known, on Water street; March 4, 1869, to hall known as Harral's Hall; April 1, 1870, to hall in Sturdevant building, and thence to hall in Waller's building. In May, 1874, removed to Lafayette Hall, and thence, September 1, 1883, to hall over the post office, where they are at present located. With one exception the halls occupied by Post have been known as Grand Army Hall while occupied by them.

August 17, 1876, the soldiers' monument was dedicated.

The Post, since its organization, has held each year some kind of an entertainment or entertainments for the purpose of raising funds to assist the broken down comrades, the widow and the orphan of comrades mustered into the Grand Encampment above. With very few exceptions their efforts have been crowned with success, the net proceeds running from \$50 to \$1,200; this, of course, could not enable them to be very liberal, and therefore many comrades' widows and orphans have been assisted by contributions from the comrades' pockets. In 1883, under Commander Worcester, the Post held a fair, and it was then that the veteran found out, if he never knew it before, that the *people* were his friends indeed, the fair netting the organization \$10,000. This gratifying result was largely due to the persistent and judicious efforts of comrades A. B. Beers, George Keeler and William E. Disbrow, of the executive committee.

In 1884 the Post was incorporated by act of the Legislature.

Memorial Day.—Each year is this national day observed, each grave of a departed comrade is decorated with a wreath of green and the first flowers of spring, and his resting place marked by the flag he helped to save. This year (1886) for the first time the comrades were assisted in the pleasing duty by a detail from the Sons of Veterans (William H. Mallory Camp, No. 11). This Camp was named after a comrade who, when living, was a Grand Army man, and the sons did well in honoring their Camp with his name as when living he was always honored by his comrades. The sons are an organization which, if kept up, will, in time place a wreath and a flag over the grave of the last veteran of the Grand Army of the Republic.



The following veterans were members of the Post during its first year's existence.

William H. Noble, Col. 17th C. V.; Bvt. Brig. Gen. U. S. A.
 E. N. Stebbens.
 James E. Dunham, Capt. Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Samuel E. Blinn, 1st Lt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 J. R. Cumming, M.D., Surgeon, 12th C. V.
 Wheeler Hawley, 1st Conn. Cav.
 William H. Lacey, Capt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Henry L. Cowles.
 Albert W. Peck, 1st Lt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 L. M. Nichols.
 John M. Andrews, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Anthony Aigeltinger, Corp. Co. E, 41st N. Y. V.
 Charles F. Anderson, Lt. Co. H, 2d C. H. A.
 Alfred B. Beers, Capt. Co. B, 6th C. V.
 Henry Biebel, Capt. Co. H, 6th C. V.
 George F. Blinn, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Theo. F. Bradley.
 Frederick A. Booth, 2d Conn. Lt. Bat.
 John Beck, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Wesley H. Botsford.
 Eugene N. Botsford, U. S. N.
 S. G. Bailey.
 Charles Bailey.
 James Bozworth, Sergt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 James Burton.
 Frederick C. Bowman.
 Allen G. Brady.
 Roderick S. Beers, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Charles H. Brotherton, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Cyrus T. Bachelder, Sergt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 John H. Beck.
 John C. Bayles, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Walter Baxter, Co. I, 11th N. Y. Cav.
 John F. Bartlett, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Garrett D. Bonne, Sergt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Hiram H. Blish, Band, 1st and 17th C. V.
 Reuben Blake, Mus. Co. F, 1st C. H. A.
 Samuel Burr, Sergt. Co. G, 11th R. I. V.
 Oscar R. Beers, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Charles E. Beers, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Philo M. Beers, Co. H, 1st C. V.
 Frederick H. Carpenter, Corp. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Homer S. Curtiss.
 H. B. Chamberlain.
 George S. Crofutt.
 Elliott M. Curtiss, Major 4th U. S. Vet. V.
 Marcus Coon, Capt. 1st Squad C. Cav.
 Pierce D. Colburn, Sergt. Co. D, 9th C. V.
 James Caffrey, Co. D, 9th C. V.
 Lyman S. Catlin, Lt. and Q. M. 5th U. S. C. C.
 Henry L. Crampton, Co. D, 1st N. Y. V.
 Henry R. Chaffee, Lt. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Frederick N. Cox, Serg. Co. E, 38th N. Y. V.
 Dwight H. Cowles, Co. I, 9th C. V.
 John B. Clark, 1st Lt. Co. B, 8th U. S. C. H. A.
 William E. Disbrow, Corp. Co. H, 2d C. V.

Alexander Doran, 1st C. L. Bat.
 Jacob Dietrich.
 William F. Daily, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Charles Dimon, Co. D, 9th C. V.
 Andrew J. Davis, Mus. Co. I, 25th C. V.
 Montgomery Egbert, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Burr H. French.
 William Finnemore, Co. D, 13th C. V.
 Wilson French, Capt. Co. G, 17th C. V.
 E. D. S. Goodyear, Lt. Col. 10th C. V. and Bvt. Brig. Gen.
 E. N. Goodwin, 1st Lt. Co. K, 24th C. V.
 William Geilner, Mus. Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Russell Glenn, 1st Serg. Co. A, 14th C. V.
 R. Charles Gotschalk, 2d C. L. Bat.
 James G. Goodwin, U. S. N.
 Steadman Greenwood, U. S. N.
 Miles W. Gray, 1st Lt. 2d C. L. Bat.
 James L. Green, Co. I, 13th C. V.
 William C. Geddes, Co. I, 90th N. Y. V.
 Robert Hubbard, M.D., Med. Director 11th Army Corps.
 William L. Hubbell, Capt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 James Hanford, Co. K, 1st C. H. A.
 George Hill, Serg. Co. E, 9th C. V.
 H. K. Hall, Chaplain 17th C. V.
 Justus B. Hawley, 2d Lt. 2d C. H. A.
 Charles W. Hall, Capt. Co. D, 23d C. H. A.
 Samuel O. Hodges.
 Walter S. Hotchkiss, Capt. 2d C. L. Bat.
 T. M. Holcomb.
 O. H. Hibbard.
 John R. Hull, Artificer 1st C. L. Bat.
 Charles F. Hall.
 John Harvey, 1st Lt. Co. B, 17th C. V.
 Charles Hurd, Co. H, 2d C. H. A.
 Charles Hull, Wagoner Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Peter Haefner, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Franklin H. Hull, Serg. Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 Alvin S. Hunt, Co. A, 21st C. V.
 Orris S. Jennings, Corp. Co. A, 8th C. V.
 D. Homer Jennings, Co. D, 5th N. Y. Cav.
 John Johnson, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Thomas Knablin.
 Michael Kelley.
 Justin S. Keeler, Mus. Co. C, 17th C. V.
 Rudolph Kost, 2d Lt. Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Michael Kelley, Capt. and Bvt. Major 2d C. H. A.
 Henry Krouse, Co. B, 1st C. Cav.
 Robert Lander, M.D., Corp. Co. K, 11th R. I. V.
 Edward H. Lyon, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 John Laurie.
 David B. Lockwood, 1st Serg. 2d C. L. Bat.
 Bennett L. Lewis, Capt. Co. B, 6th C. V.
 Moses Lonsella, Co. K, 8th C. V.
 Stephen C. Lewis, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 William H. May, Capt. Co. I, 23d C. V.

Moses M. Mills.
 George N. Munger, Lt. 2d C. L. Bat.
 Robert H. Marvin, Serg. Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 Louis N. Middlebrook, Capt. Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 William H. Mallory, Major Harris L. Cav.
 Rufus Mead, Jr., Com. Serg. 5th C. V.
 George C. Morris, Co. H, 16th C. V.
 Jesse S. Nash, Hospital Steward 17th C. V.
 William B. Nichols, Wagoner Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Joseph W. North, Band, 5th and 17th C. V.
 Isaac Northrop, Serg. Co. I, 2d C. H. A.
 G. Ohnesorg, Asst. Surg., 46th N. Y. V.
 Charles H. Orchard, Co. C, 30th Mass. H. A.
 Charles E. Plumb, 2d Lt. Co. —, 23d C. V.
 Otis F. Porter, Co. —, 5th C. V.
 A. D. Powers, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 John T. Platt, Serg. Co. K, 9th C. V.
 William W. Pardee, Lt. Co. B, 1st C. H. A.
 George Platt, Mus. Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Henry W. Pettitt, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Jacob Powlouich, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 George A. Parkington, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Addis E. Payne, Capt. Co. H, 9th C. V.
 Ashael Porter, Co. F, 1st C. H. A.
 George S. Quinn.
 William Rexinger, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Darwin S. Reade, Co. C, 31st Mass. V.
 Lyman L. Rose, Serg. Co. E, 46th N. Y. V.
 John M. Speidel, Lt. Col. 6th C. V.
 Lorenzo E. Snow, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 John G. Stevens, 1st Lt. Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Charles E. Shelton, Corp. Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Samuel B. Spinning, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Henry L. Sturges.
 Henry Stagg, Co. A, 7th N. Y. V.
 John H. Stratton, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 George E. Stowell, Serg. Co. E, 13th N. Y. H. A.
 George D. Squires, Co. A, 5th C. V.
 George A. Staples, 1st Serg. Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Frederick Smedel, Co. I, 9th C. V.
 Joseph N. Shailer, Co. B, 14th C. V.
 William H. Smith, Co. A, 8th C. V.
 Legrand Stratton, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Horace E. Sherwood, Co. A, 2d N. H. V.
 William H. Smith, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 William R. Spencer, Co. K, 25th C. V.
 George H. Spall, 2d C. L. Bat.
 J. F. Tupper.
 James A. Thompson, Co. B, 1st C. H. A.
 Benjamin H. Toquet.
 John W. Thompson, Co. E, 48th N. Y. V.
 George E. Underhill, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Myron H. White, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Robert Wilson, Co. D, 6th C. V.
 Joseph F. Wales, Co. L, 1st C. Cav.
 David R. Waters, Co. A, 10th C. V.
 Lyman F. Warner, Co. K, 10th C. V.

Veterans who have belonged to the organization since its first year and not at present members. This list includes those who have died, been honorably discharged, received transfers to other Posts of the G. A. R., and who have been dropped from the rolls for various causes.

Elbert B. Ayres, Co. B, 17th C. V.
 Jesse Atherton, Co. H, 15th C. V.
 Charles H. Andrews, Corp. Co. D, 144th N. Y. V.
 E. A. Atwater, Co. A, 3d Mich. V.
 Edwin H. Allen, Co. K, 16th C. V.
 William F. Alexander, Co. D, 1st C. V.
 Byron M. Atherton, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Augustus A. Abernathy, M.D., Asst. Surgeon U. S. N.
 H. W. Aldrich, Serg. Co. D, 34th Mass. V.
 George F. Abbey, Artificer Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Frederick Allstreet, Co. G, 5th N. Y. V.
 Henry E. Batchelder, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 James E. Bennett, Corp. Co. I, 1st C. H. A.
 W. E. Briggs, 1st Serg. Co. B, 10th Mass. V.
 Samuel B. Barnum, Hos. Steward, 17th C. V.
 John W. Bennett, Act. Eng. U. S. N.
 John B. Boughton, Corp. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Gershom B. Bulkly, Co. D, 23d C. V.
 William Butterworth, Co. G, 15th C. V.
 Edgar Beers, Co. B, 17th U. S. Inf.
 Robert Byers, Co. I, 5th U. S. Art.
 Richard Bennett, Co. B, 9th C. V.
 Robert S. Brownell.
 William M. Blake, Q. M. S. Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 H. R. Brown, Bugler Co. 8, N. Y. Cav.
 William Bestick, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Henry C. Beers, Co. C, 15th C. V.
 Horace N. Banks.
 Thomas A. Brown, Co. C, 2d N. Y. Cav.
 Robert Bunten, Corp. Co. A, 28th C. V.
 Charles C. Baldwin, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Herbert C. Beecher, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Patrick Burns, U. S. N.
 Horace C. Bronson, Mus. 14th U. S. Inf.
 James A. Bailey, Co. D, 28th C. V.
 George H. Batchelder, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 H. L. W. Burritt, M.D., Surgeon U. S. V.
 Walter P. Bryan, Co. G, 20th C. V.
 Frederick Butler, Co. G, 2d C. H. A.
 James M. Porter, Mus. Co. A, 57th Ill. V.
 Lucien J. Beebee, Corp. Co. C, 20th C. V.
 John Browne, Co. E, 17th C. V.
 Michael Blake, 1st Serg. Co. F, 2d N. Y. V.
 John Burton, Co. E, 48th N. Y. V.
 John Burke, Co. D, 2d N. Y. Cav.
 Theo. Birdsell, Co. A, 6th N. Y. Art.
 E. P. Blakeman, Co. A, 10th C. V.
 Legrand E. Booth, Co. F, 6th C. V.
 Oliver Brower, Co. I, 13th N. Y. H. A.
 Frank P. Burton, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 James Birmingham, Co. E, 17th C. V.

- Willis N. Benham, Serg. 2d C. L. Bat.
 William F. Brown, Co. E, 23d C. V.
 Thomas Burns, U. S. N.
 Michael Brecklenberg, Co. B, 45th N. Y. V.
 John F. Beardsley, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Samuel T. Bradley.
 Lambart Becker, Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Lewis Bissell, Corp. Co. A, 2d C. V.
 Ashbel J. Carrier, Serg. Co. F, 22d C. V.
 Timothy W. Crowther, U. S. N.
 George H. Carpenter, Co. B, 2d Cav.
 James N. Coe, Capt. Co. H, 2d C. H. A.
 George C. Carpenter, Co. B, 15th C. V.
 John Conley, Co. —, 4th C. V.
 George S. Cooley, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 William Connelly, Co. —, 17th C. V.
 Thomas R. Colbey, Co. B, 1st C. H. A.
 James Cahill, 1st Lt. Co. D, 9th C. V.
 Gustave Class, Artificer Co. B, 1st N. Y. Cav.
 A. H. Clark, Co. E, 1st N. Y. Drag.
 James H. Cowan, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Michael Conway, Co. I, 7th C. V.
 Frederick Curtis, Serg. Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 George A. Chatfield, Corp. Co. E, 7th C. V.
 W. M. Conley.
 J. A. Cross, Co. C, 16th Me. V.
 William E. Canfield, Serg. Co. M, 2d C. H. A.
 Henry M. Capper.
 James W. Conley, Serg. Co. I, 8th C. V.
 William Callahan, Corp. Co. F, 159th N. Y. V.
 John H. Cogswell, Q. M. Serg. 23d C. V.
 Thomas Carroll, U. S. N.
 Henry L. Cutts, Co. A, 10th C. V.
 John Callon, Co. K, 24th C. V.
 Thomas Carroll, U. S. N.
 John Cogan, Mus. Co. K, 7th Ind. Cav.
 Patrick Carley, Co. G, 49th Mass. V.
 Ed. F. Clark, U. S. N.
 James W. Curry, Corp. Co. E, 20th N. Y. V.
 H. K. Cooley, Capt. Co. K, 27th Mass. V.
 Marcus E. Comstock, Co. A, 17th C. V.
 E. J. Crossman, Co. F, 1st N. Y. Cav.
 Fred F. Callender, Co. I, 5th C. V.
 Rufus W. Carley, Mus. 5th C. V.
 George A. Campana, Co. E, 7th C. V.
 J. P. Commet, Co. E, 3d N. Y. V.
 Lawrence Cummeford, Co. I, 14th U. S. Inf.
 Timothy P. Callahan, Corp. Co. G, 16th Ms. V.
 Charles W. Cooley, Co. K, 17th C. V.
 John C. Coventry, Co. E, 5th N. Y. V.
 John G. Cornell, Serg. Co. D, 2d C. V.
 James W. Conley, 1st Serg. Co. A, 8th C. V.
 John Curtiss, Serg. Co. H, 1st C. H. A.
 August Courtright, Corp. Co. B, 8th Mass. V.
 Michael Curley, Co. G, 2d C. H. A.
 Michael Carey, Co. I, 7th C. V.
 James Cullen, Co. F, 32d Mass. V.
 James E. Clark.
 John Dunn, Co. E, 17th C. V.
 Hosmer C. Dowd, Co. F, 24th C. V.
 Sylvanus H. Deets, U. S. N.
 Alfred DeForest, Lt. Co. A, 14th C. V.
 George W. Dimond, Corp. Co. A, 2d Vt. V.
 Nathaniel Dayton, Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 Levi Dart.
 John Daly, Co. C, 108th N. Y. V.
 Thomas L. Dennis, Co. B, 15th C. V.
 William H. Doolittle, Co. K, 1st C. H. A.
 William H. Downs, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Charles H. Dailey, Co. E, 18th C. V.
 Warren T. DeCreaney, Serg. Co. D, 15th Me. V.
 George E. Durfee, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Owen Dennenney, Co. D, 7th C. V.
 Chauncey B. Downs, 1st Serg. Co. H, 7th U. S. Inf. and Co. F, 17th C. V.
 Matthew Deitz, Serg. Co. C, 156th N. Y. V.
 Charles H. Ensign, Co. B, 128th N. Y. V.
 Byron Eddy, Co. C, 11th R. I. V.
 Simeon M. Eldridge, Capt. Co. D, 61st Ms. V.
 Edward T. English.
 Patrick Eagan, Corp. Co. K, 24th C. V.
 Charles Englehardt, Co. D, 35th N. Y. V.
 George M. Euole, Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Isaac L. Elderder, Co. M, 1st C. V.
 F. W. Fox, Co. I, 2d N. J. V.
 William H. Foote, U. S. N.
 John C. Fowler, Co. I, 4th Me. V.
 Creighton B. French, Co. C, 5th Vt. V.
 Rev. Daniel O. Ferris, Chap. 133d N. Y. V.
 Aaron Fox, Co. H, 8th C. V.
 William Fisher, Co. A, 8th C. V.
 John J. Ford, Co. E, 49th Mass. V.
 Joseph Fitzpatrick, U. S. N.
 Henry L. Ferry, Co. C, 31st Mass. V.
 John Fitzpatrick, Corp. Co. E, 14th C. V.
 Charles H. Finnemore.
 Mattheas Govean, Co. D, 9th N. Y. V.
 William H. Gray, Serg. Co. A, 17th C. V.
 Frederick Gretze, U. S. N.
 William Greisenger, Co. —, 103d N. Y. V.
 Charles E. Gilbert, Co. D, 1st C. V.
 William H. Gundlock, Co. A, 192d Pa. V.
 J. J. Gorham.
 Zepheniah L. Gilbert, Co. I, 1st C. Cav.
 W. A. Gates, Co. A, 1st C. Cav.
 Augustus Gray, Corp. Co. C, 12th C. V.
 George H. Gregory, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Frederick Goodrich, Drum Major 12th U. S. Inf.
 Joseph Gerard, Co. I, 2d N. Y. Art.
 Robert Geisler, Serg. Co. C, 11th C. V.
 Elijah Gregory, M.D., Asst. Surg. 17th C. V.
 George Greim, 1st Serg. Co. E, 41st N. Y. V.
 Charles W. Gleason, 1st Lt. Co. M, 1st C.H.A.
 Harry Greatorex, Mus. Co. —, 6th C. V.
 John Geatley, Serg. Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Norval Green, Serg. Co. I, 10th C. V.
 John Gorman, Serg. Co. D, 9th C. V.
 William J. Gould, Serg. 2d C. L. Bat.
 George S. Gorgas, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Frederick P. Godfrey, Corp. Co. M, 1st C.H.A.

Henry M. Hoyt, Capt. Co. A, 8th C. V.
 Ashbel E. Hunt, Co. A, 10th C. V.
 John Hagley, Corp. Co. G, 10th C. V.
 George Hatter, Co. H, 48th N. Y. V.
 Lewis Holmes, Co. K, 48th Mass. V.
 John D. Hall, Corp. Co. D, 25th Mass. V.
 Park Hill, Co. D, 23d C. V.
 Geo. A. Hall, Sergt. Co. F, 1st C. Cav.
 Wm. H. Hubbell, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Henry T. Hawley, Co. C, 17th C. V.
 Frank Houge, Sergt. Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Wm. Harty, Capt. Co. G, 91st N. Y. V.
 C. H. Hayes, Co. K, 1st C. Cav.
 George Hunt, Co. E, 20th Ohio V.
 Seth W. Hungerford, Mus. Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Albert Hermes, Co. D, 20th C. V.
 Wm. B. Hill, Sergt. Co. D, 4th U. S. Art.
 L. F. Hurd, U. S. N.
 F. L. Hearson, Eng. U. S. N.
 Robert Hayes, Corp. Co. D, 46th Mass. V.
 John Hagle, Corp. Co. G, 10th C. V.
 Alfred Hoyt, U. S. N.
 Henry Hoffman, Co. H, 1st Pa. Reserves.
 Adam Hagerty, Co. H, 17th U. S. Inf.
 John S. Hall, Corp. Co. I, 2d C. H. A.
 Henry Houpt, Sergt. Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Eugene Hyatt, Co. C, 2d C. H. A.
 Erskine H. Holmes, Co. G, 1st C. V.
 Wm. T. Hawes, Capt. Co. B, 28th N. Y. V.
 Abel L. Hall, Co. D, 23d C. V.
 J. S. Hanford, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 John H. Halligan, Sergt. Co. H, 28th C. V.
 J. C. Hall, U. S. Navy.
 Edward Hope, Sergt. Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Cornelius Heron, Corp. Co. K, 124th N. Y. V.
 Philip Hafner, Corp. Co. I, 1st C. V.
 Chas. W. Hurst, Co. H, 8th C. V.
 Philip Hurdbolt, Co. A, 8th N. Y. V.
 Wm. H. Harrison, Co. D, 2d C. H. A.
 Wm. B. Hayes, Sergt. Co. D, 150th N. Y. V.
 S. S. Hooker, Co. A, 27th Mass. V.
 Henry C. Isard, Co. G, 8th N. J. V.
 W. H. Ingalls, Co. G, 18th N. H. V.
 Joseph Jacobs, Co. I, 156th N. Y. V.
 Wm. Jahn, Corp. Co. F, 45th N. Y. V.
 J. Jenkinson, Co. B, 1st N. J. Cav.
 James H. Jernan, Co. D, 6th C. V.
 Wm. P. Jessup, Co. G, 127th N. Y. V.
 George H. Josslyn, Co. G, 18th Mass. V.
 Charles Johnson.
 Wm. A. Johnson, Co. E, 5th C. V.
 Chas. Jensen.
 Geo. F. Jennings.
 H. Q. Judd, Corp. Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Geo. W. Johnson, Mus. Co. B, 162d N. Y. V.
 William H. Keeler, Q. M. S. 17th C. V.
 Ambrose Kirkham, Co. A, 115th N. Y. V.
 William Krapp, Corp. Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Henry F. Keyes, Band 9th and 17th C. V.
 John R. Kimball, Sergt. Co. B, 4th N. H. V.

Jas. Kiley, 1st Lieut. Co. H, 28th C. V.
 Frank A. King, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Jas. Kiley, U. S. N.
 Joseph B. King, 1st Sergt. Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 Wm. Kringle, Co. D, 62d N. Y. V.
 George Kurtz, Mus. Co. —, 14th C. V.
 Chas. B. Keeler, Co. H, 4th C. V.
 Chas. Krapp, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Thos. Kelley, Co. M, 14th N. Y. H. A.
 Robert D. Kelley, Mus. Co. I, 6th C. V.
 William Keen, Co. B, 16th C. V.
 Jos. Killenbeck, Sergt. Co. B, 20th C. V.
 G. S. Keeler, Brig. Band, U. S. A.
 John Kountzman, Co. D, 79th N. Y. V.
 Wm. C. Keller, 2d C. L. Bat.
 Patrick Kelley, Sergt. Co. K, 9th U. S. V.
 Lewis King.
 Henry Kmierter.
 Sevil Knight, Co. G, 4th Mass. V.
 Geo. E. Lover, Co. H, 14th C. V.
 James P. Lockwood, Co. F, Pa. Reserves.
 Henry Landiveg, Co. G, 56th N. Y. V.
 Calvin J. Lathrop, Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 W. H. Langdon, Co. A, 5th C. V.
 Dennis Leary, Mus. 1st Brig. 2d Div.
 James R. Lockwood, Corp. Co. E, 23d C. V.
 John Lotty, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Philip B. Lever, Mus. Co. A, 3d C. V.
 Geo. F. Lewis, M.D.
 Henry Lintenmyer, Co. F, 56th N. Y. Vol.
 R. La Fontain, Co. —, 12th N. Y. Cav.
 William Lien, Co. K, 17th C. V.
 John Laurie, Co. D, 9th C. V.
 John H. Logan, 1st Sergt. Co. D, 28th C. V.
 Henry C. Laramie, Corp. Co. D, 127th N. Y. V.
 W. H. Lee, U. S. N.
 Peter Lynch, Corp. Co. G, 1st U. S. Inf.; Co.
 H, 7th Kan. Cav.
 Samuel Lloyd, Co. I, 10th C. V.
 Geo. Laughlin, Co. A, 24th C. V.
 James R. Middlebrook, Corp. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Samuel Moore, Co. B, 20th C. V.
 Hazen B. Martin, Corp. Co. I, 2d N. H. V.
 Wm. H. Marshall, 1st Lt. Co. I, 10th C. V.
 Julian Manchester, Co. E, 1st C. V.
 James McDermott, U. S. N.
 Harry Mehan, Co. I, 5th N. Y. Vols.
 Robert McManus, Co. A, 1st C. V.
 John McConnell, U. S. Navy.
 Lewis E. McLaughlin, Corp. Co. A, 82 N. Y. V.
 Daniel Morrell, Co. G, 153d Ill. V.
 John Mullen, Co. L, 2d P. A. H. A.
 George W. Myer, 2d C. L. Bat.
 George E. Mitchel, Co. E, 34th Mass. V.
 Chas. McElroy, Co. K, 17th C. V.
 Walter L. Murphy, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 James A. Morris, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Charles E. Marilton, Co. H, 10th C. V.
 Wm. McNeil, Sergt. Co. G, 20th C. V.
 Charles Mayer, Sergt. Co. B, 13th N. Y. V.

- Harvey Meekin, Sergt. Co. I, 5th N. Y. Cav.
 Richard Marshall, Drum Major, 5th C. V.
 Nicholas Muth, Co. B, 98th Penn. V.
 John H. Murphy, Co. F, 1st C. V.
 C. Andrew Morehouse, Sergt. Co. C, 23d C. V.
 Frank Marshall, Corp. Co. K, 7th C. V.
 George A. Mayne, Co. H, 1st C. V.
 Timothy Murphy, Co. M, 1st N. Y. Cav.
 Charles Morgan, Co. A, 4th N. Y. H. A.
 Chandler McCarty, Hosp. Steward, U. S. A.
 Chas. D. Miller, Co. G, 27th Mass. V.
 W. H. Miller, Co. I, 11th C. V.
 Chas. D. Millikin.
 A. A. Murray, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 John H. Mills, Corp. Co. A, 17th N. Y. V.
 James H. Nash, Co. D, 6th N. Y. V.
 George E. Nickerson, Co. H, 71st N. Y. V.
 Chas. H. Newton, Co. F, 42d Mass. V.
 John Nichols, Corp. Co. F, 1st C. H. A.
 David Northrop, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Edward Olden, Jr., Co. H, 127th N. Y. V.
 James S. Olmstead, Co. I, 9th C. V.
 Thomas R. O'Hara, Co. E, 4th Mass. Cav.
 James Owens, Co. E, 23d C. V.
 John Oliver, 1st Sergt. Co. A, 178th N. Y. V.
 and 1st U. S. Cav.
 Isaac E. Osborn, Co. I, 23d Penn. V.
 John Osborn, Co. E, 23d C. V.
 J. C. Oatley, Co. L, 2d R. I. V.
 Gilbert Oakley, Co. K, 1st Wis. Cav.
 Norman Provost, Lieut. Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Jacob Penn, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Joseph Peoria.
 Benj. B. Penfield, Adj. 6th C. V.
 James H. Porter, Act. Comdr. U. S. N.
 Myron Purdy, Co. C, 20th C. V.
 James Parks, 1st Sergt. Co. B, 2d C. H. A.
 Geo. A. Parkington, 2d C. L. Bat.
 C. B. Payne, Co. F, 7th Me. V.
 Patrick Purden, Co. F, 17th C. V.
 Thaddeus E. Peck, Serg. Lt. U. S. N.
 Joseph Perry, Co. F, 133d N. Y. V.
 S. C. Paul, Co. I, 9th N. Y. V.
 C. T. Platt, Co. A, 10th N. Y. V.
 Albert M. Porter, Com. Serg. 12th C. V.
 Robert E. Paddock, 1st Lt. Co. I, 20th C. V.
 Conrad Pullis, Co. L, 1st C. H. A.
 Charles W. Peet, Co. D, 23d C. V.
 George C. Potter, Co. M, 12th N. Y. Cav.
 Lewis F. Pelton, Co. G, 16th C. V.
 C. L. Paddock, Mus. 3d Vt. V.
 Abram T. Peck, Co. A, 5th C. V.
 James B. Prescott, 1st Serg. Co. F, 9th C. V.
 James M. Prindle, Co. A, 2d C. H. A.
 John Prindle, U. S. Navy.
 Willard W. Pettingell, Co. A, Lt. Artill.
 Christian Quinn, 2d Lt. Co. F, 11th C. V.
 Chester B. Russell, Corp. Co. I, 1st C. H. A.
 Angevine Rogers, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Geo. W. Raymond, 1st Lt. Co. I, 5th C. V.
 W. H. Romer, Jr., Co. E, 6th C. V.
 Chas. H. Rowe, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Alfred Rich, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Wm. Rebstock, Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Henry Roscoe, Co. B, 28th C. V.
 Chas. Rinaldi, Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Henry A. Root, Co. K, 22d C. V.
 Nathan H. Root, 1st Serg. Co. M, 2d C. H. A.
 James P. Reed, U. S. Navy.
 Henry C. Roff, Mus. Co. H, 10th N. Y. V.
 Chas. Rawlins.
 Benj. F. Ross, Co. F, 15th C. V.
 Thomas Russell, Master-at-Arms, U. S. N.
 J. Wilbur Range, Mus. Co. K, 8th C. V.
 Simeon C. Rosenberg, Band, 5th C. V.
 Philip B. Segee, 1st Lt. C. Lt. Bat.
 Chas. W. Shailer, 1st Lt. Co. K, 7th C. V.
 Theophilus T. Smith, Co. B, 6th C. V.
 Jacob Spagle, Co. H, 7th C. V.
 Thomas H. Sterling, Co. H, 150th N. Y. V.
 Walter F. Sage, Co. G, 1st Conn. H. A.
 D. G. Silliman, 2d C. Lt. Battery.
 Birdsey L. Sherman, Co. A, 9th N. Y. V.
 Wm. Sheriden, Co. K, 1st N. Y. Cav.
 Geo. W. Smith, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 David G. Sheriden, Co. C, 9th C. V.
 Nicholas Sanger, Co. B, 1st C. V.
 Patrick W. Seevey, Co. G, 51st N. Y. V.
 August W. Stotper.
 Michael Schneider, Co. F, 20th N. Y. V.
 P. Joseph Schonberger, Co. C, 40th N. Y. V.
 Alonzo Scranton, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 P. Shonenberger.
 Jos. Sanger, Co. D, 4th U. S. Infantry.
 Peter Seman, Serg. Co. C, 1st C. Cav.
 Horace B. Stoddard, Co. D, 13th C. V.
 E. G. Sherwood, Co. B, 1st C. H. A.
 U. D. H. Smith, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Solomon C. Shumway, Lt. Co. H, 21 Mass. V.
 Chas. Scarritt, 2d C. Lt. Battery.
 Michael Snyder, Co. F, 51st N. Y. V.
 Chas. W. Speer, 2d C. Lt. Battery.
 George E. Swinscoe, Captain and Mustering
 Officer, U. S. V.
 Joseph Strange, Co. A, 79th N. Y. V.
 John Slattery, Co. D, 173d N. Y. V.
 John Simpson, Co. I, 1st C. H. A.
 W. H. Smith, Co. A, 8th C. V.
 Gilbert L. Street, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Maurice Smend, Co. G, 15th C. V. Art.
 Theodore Smith, Co. A, 8th C. V.
 L. W. Sherman, Corp. Co. I, 43d N. Y. V.
 Benjamin St. John, Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Ernest Schultz, Co. A, 9th Ohio V.
 Edgar Squires, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Bennett Smith, Co. E, 8th C. V.
 Barney Shanley, Co. F, 1st U. S. Art.
 J. L. Selden, Co. B, 6th Mass. V.
 Frederick Speer, Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Samuel N. Smith, Lt. Col. 7th Mich. V.



Oliver W. Treadwell, Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 Albert Tilton.
 J. M. Turney, Co. H, 1st C. Cav.
 Oliver R. Tomlinson, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Horatio Tyrrell, 3d C. Lt. Bat.
 John Thornton, Co. C, 1st C. H. A.
 Isaac S. Taylor, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 St. Clair Techner, Lt. Co. E, 9th Ohio V.
 James R. Vans, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 George Valentine, Co. K, 1st Vol. Eng.
 Odel B. Vredenburgh, Co. E, 19th N. Y. V.
 Richard Wallace, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Alexander Weed, Co. A, 28th C. V.
 Thomas K. Wood, 1st Lt. Co. K, 51st N. Y. V.
 Edwin S. Witherall, Co. E, 20th Me. V.
 Martin V. Willoughby, Co. F, 23d C. V.
 Daniel J. West, 1st Lt. Co. I, 6th C. V.
 James W. Waterbury, U. S. N.
 James Wheeler, Capt. Co. H, 1st C. Cav.
 W. L. Wentworth, Mus. Co. B, 1st C. V.
 Chas. S. Wells, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Fred M. Wilmott, Mus. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 W. H. Wales, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 H. Walschilger, Co. A, 1st U. S. S. S.

W. W. Walker, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Jos. E. Wells, Co. G, 10th C. V.
 Thos. N. Wheeler, Corp. Co. H, 4th N. Y. Art.
 Thomas Wood, 2d Lt. Co. E, 51st N. Y. V.
 G. W. Wright, Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 A. A. Watrous, Co. G, 185th N. Y. V.
 Edward Ward, Co. K, 1st Mass. H. A.
 P. D. Warner, Mus. 14th U. S. Inf.
 Benjamin E. Watrous, Corp. Co. —, 103d Vet.
 R. C.
 L. F. Warner, Co. K, 10th C. V.
 David S. Walker, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 C. H. Whitney.
 Stephen Weaver, Co. C, 40th N. Y. V.
 David R. Waters, Co. A, 10th C. V.
 Charles F. Wurtz, Co. G, 17th C. V.
 Henry Werner, Co. —, 1st C. V.
 Mark D. Wilbur, Lt. Co. 159th N. Y. V.
 N. L. Wentworth, Co. F, 1st Mass. Cav.
 Frank A. Wood, Q. M. 1st C. Cav.
 Daniel Westrick, Co. G, 45th N. Y. V.
 Edward J. Watson, Corp. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 John B. Young, Lt. Co. I, 7th C. V.

Present Members, 1886.

Wm. C. Aumack, Serg. Co. B, 29th N. J. V.
 Jacob Arnald, Co. B, 1st C. V.
 Alfred C. Arnald, Co. G, 10th C. V.
 Stephen P. Almy, 15th unattached Co., Mass. V.
 Aaron S. Abbott, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 James H. Angevine.
 Antone Aitengeltinger, Corporal Co. E, 41st
 N. Y. V.
 Gustavus A. Abbott, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Alfred B. Beers, Capt. Co. B, 6th C. V.
 Charles E. Beers, Corp. Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Lathroe Beers, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Bradley Banks, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 James H. Burns, Co. I, 10th C. V.
 George E. Betts, 2d Lt. Co. I, 19th C. V.
 Thomas Boudren, Major 25th U. S. C. T., and
 Capt. Co. I, 6th C. V.
 George W. Babcock, Co. G, 4th R. I. V.
 Thomas Burke, Serg. Co. A, 5th N. Y. Cav.
 Thomas J. Bartley, Co. K, 20th N. Y. Cav.
 Ashbel E. Bartram, Corp. Co. I, 8th C. V.
 Wm. C. Blush, Co. F, 46th Mass. V.
 Wm. P. Burroughs, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Rollin C. Baker.
 Sylvester Blinn, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Alexander Bend, Co. H, 110th N. Y. V.
 James H. Blakeman, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 E. C. Blakeman, Co. A, 10th C. V.
 Wm. H. Burr, Co. D, 23d C. V.
 Luther S. Brocius, Co. H, 93d Penn. V.
 August S. Bodine, 1st Lt. Co. B, 127th N. Y. V.
 Thomas L. Bartholomew, Adj. 9th N. Y. V.
 John B. Beardsley.

Ulrich Burghardt, Corp. Co. B, 13th C. V.
 Alfred P. Buss.
 Lyman S. Catlin, 1st Lt. and Q. M. 5th U. S. C.
 Cav.
 John S. Caroli, Mus. Co. I, 25th N. J. V.
 George F. Cook, Co. D, 9th C. V.
 Thomas C. Coats, Capt. Co. D, 9th C. V.
 James G. Clark, Co. K, 2d C. H. A.
 George H. Conch, 2d Lt. Co. F, 1st C. H. A.
 Ansil H. Conch, 2d Lt. Co. K, 1st C. H. A.
 John C. Curtis, 1st Lt. Co. I, 9th C. V.
 Wm. H. Curtis, Co. C, 17th C. V.
 Henry B. Curtis, Co. A, 5th C. V.
 Henry Crofutt, U. S. N.
 Theo. A. Crofutt, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Henry R. Chaffee, 2d Lt. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Samuel J. Chaffee, Capt. 49th Mass. V.
 John C. Copeland, Lt. Co. A, 13th N. Y. V.
 Joseph P. Crossman, 2d Lt. Co. E, 12th C. V.
 John J. Cavanaugh, Corp. Co. C, 132d N. Y. V.
 Richard A. Clancey, 1st Lt. Co. D, 9th C. V.
 William E. Disbrow, Corp. Co. H, 2d C. H. A.
 Charles L. Derrick, Corp. Co. I, 23d C. V.
 Jacob Dietrich, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Patrick Donovan, Serg. Co. H, 37th Mass. V.
 Charles C. Drew, Co. C, 16th C. V.
 Edwin L. Downs, Co. H, 20th C. V.
 William Derringer, Corp. Co. G, 137th N. Y. V.
 Edgar A. Dean.
 Hugh Dunn.
 John B. Earl, Co. K, 1st N. Y. Eng.
 Charles H. Frank, Corp. Co. K, 23d C. V.
 Philip Flynn, Corp. Co. G, 73d N. Y. V.



- Henry J. Flint, Co. D, 1st C. Cav.
 Anson B. Field, Co. G, 7th C. Cav.
 George H. Fox, Co. I, 6th C. Cav.
 John Fox, Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Michael Frawley, Co. D, 10th C. V.
 Richard FitzGibbons, Co. H, 1st C. V., Lt. Col.
 9th C. V.
 William Finnemore, Serg. Co. D, 13th C. V.
 Edwin Freeman, Mus. Co. I, 29th C. V.
 Russell Glenn, 1st Serg. Co. A, 14th C. V.
 Isaac W. Gilbert, Co. A, 17th C. V.
 Wellington H. Gibbs, Co. E, 7th C. V.
 Peter O. Gregory, Co. D, 23d C. V.
 Wm. C. Geddes, 1st Serg. Co. I, 70th N. Y. V.
 James L. Green, Serg. Co. I, 15th C. V.
 Wm. H. Green.
 James G. Goodwin, Co. D, 99th N. Y. V.
 Peter Gabler.
 Augustine Harlow, Capt. Co. D, 13th Mass. V.
 Joseph Hammond, Mus. Co. F, 23d C. V.
 Charles W. Hall, Capt. Co. D, 23d C. V.
 James Haugh, Co. E, 17th C. V.
 Justus B. Hawley, 2d Lt. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Rechus Hartning, Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Charles C. Hoyt, Capt. Co. D, 8th N. H. V.
 A. A. Holmes, Ass't Surg. 15th Me. V.
 Sylvester S. Hooper, Corp. Co. A, 27th C. V.
 Louis Held, Co. B, 1st C. V.
 Henry A. Hurd, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Henry Huss, Mus. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 William L. Hubbell, Capt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Alvin S. Hunt, Co. A, 21st C. V.
 John W. Hunt.
 William H. Hine, Corp. Co. H, 23d C. V.
 Thomas F. Hickey, Co. M, 1st N. Y. Cav.
 John R. Hull, Artificer, 1st C. Lt. Bat.
 Samuel S. Hunter.
 John Holzer.
 George Heisler.
 John P. Jaquith, Corp. Co. C, 131st Ohio V.
 Oris S. Jennings, Corp. Co. A, 8th C. V.
 Silas D. Johnson, Corp. Co. F, 14th R. I. H. A.
 Wm. M. Jones, Band, 17th C. V.
 Henry Jaquet.
 Jno. U. Kable, Co. K, 17th C. V.
 George W. Keeler, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 John Keppy, 1st Serg. Co. C, 23d C. V.
 Fred C. Keller, Artificer, Co. B, 1st U. S. Artil.,
 and Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Thomas Knablin, Co. D, 6th C. V.
 Julius W. Knowlton, 2d Lt. Co. —, 14th C. V.
 Rudolph Kost, 2d Lt. Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Christian Kohlus, Co. H, 6th C. V.
 Michael Kelly, Bvt. Major 2d C. H. A.
 William H. Lacey, Capt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 William H. Lattimer, U. S. N.
 Robert Lauder, Corp. Co. K, 11th R. I. V.
 Patrick Layden, Co. B, 9th C. V.
 Charles P. Lewis, Co. I, 7th C. V.
 George M. Lewis, Co. I, 5th C. V.
 David B. Lockwood, Serg. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Lewis G. Logan, 1st Lt. Co. I, 1st C. H. A.
 George W. Lovejoy, Corp. Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 Wm. H. Longdon, Co. A, 5th C. V.
 John A. Leonard, Co. E, 95th N. Y. V.
 John A. Ludford, Corp. Co. K, 2d C. H. A.
 William H. Lyon, Serg. Co. D, 27th Penn. V.
 George W. Lawmaster.
 Joseph Lavoy.
 Edward W. Marsh, Capt. Co. M, 2d C. H. A.
 Wm. H. Maby, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Barney Marshall, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 John Marshall, 1st Lt. 10th U. S. C. A.
 Albert Mertius, Co. B, 1st C. V.
 Moses M. Mills, Co. I, 9th C. V.
 Frank Miller, Co. I, 1st C. H. A.
 Wm. U. Mitchell, Mus. Co. A, 52d Mass. V.
 Philo A. Morris, Co. E, 1st C. H. A.
 Charles E. Moore, 1st Serg. Co. B, 6th C. V.
 Michael McCormick, Serg. Co. G, 6th N. Y.
 H. A.
 Chas. T. Moody, Drummer, Co. H, 5th N. H. V.
 Wm. H. McNeill.
 Byron W. Munsen, Com. Surg. Co. G, 1st C.
 Cav.
 George Munger, 1st Lt. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Joseph Mott, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Fred C. Nicholas, Co. C, 22d C. V.
 Sylvester Nichols, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Chas. H. Nichols, Capt. Co. D, 6th C. V.
 John Nunheimer, Serg. Co. A, 103d Battery,
 N. Y. V.
 Henry North, 1st Lt. Co. D, 17th C. V.
 Wm. H. Nordaby, Co. K, 14th N. Y. V.
 Wm. H. Noble, Col. 17th C. V., Bvt. Brig. Gen.
 Terrance O'Brien, Corp. Co. I, 10th C. V.
 Thomas W. Oatley, Co. F, 2d R. I. V.
 John O'Conner, Co. I, 27th Mass. V.
 Charles O'Neil, Co. E, 2d Mass. V.
 Albert W. Overton, Co. M, 1st C. H. A.
 William R. Palmer, 2d C. Lt. Bat.
 Stephen T. Palmer, Co. C, 5th C. V.
 William C. Peck, Seaman, U. S. N.
 Edward Peet, Corp. Co. I, 12th C. V.
 George L. Porter, Ass't Surgeon, U. S. A.
 Warren W. Porter, 1st Lt. Co. L, 7th Ill. Cav.
 Michael Pickett, Co. K, 17th C. V.
 Edward M. Presbrey, Co. A, 13th C. V.
 Granville Platt, Co. I, 6th C. V.
 Horace Plumb, Co. D, 17th C. V.
 W. E. Parker.
 John H. Porter, Serg. Co. K, 17th C. V.
 Charles W. Phipps.
 Lyman L. Rose, Serg. Co. E, 46 Mass. V.
 Benj. F. Remington, Co. F, 10th Mass. V.
 Charles Rohrbach, Corp. Co. B, 1st C. V.
 Wm. H. Robertson, Co. A, 1st Cal.
 Michael Rock, Co. C, 7th C. V.
 Elbert Ruggles.
 Harlan P. Rugg, Capt. Co. I, 5th C. V.

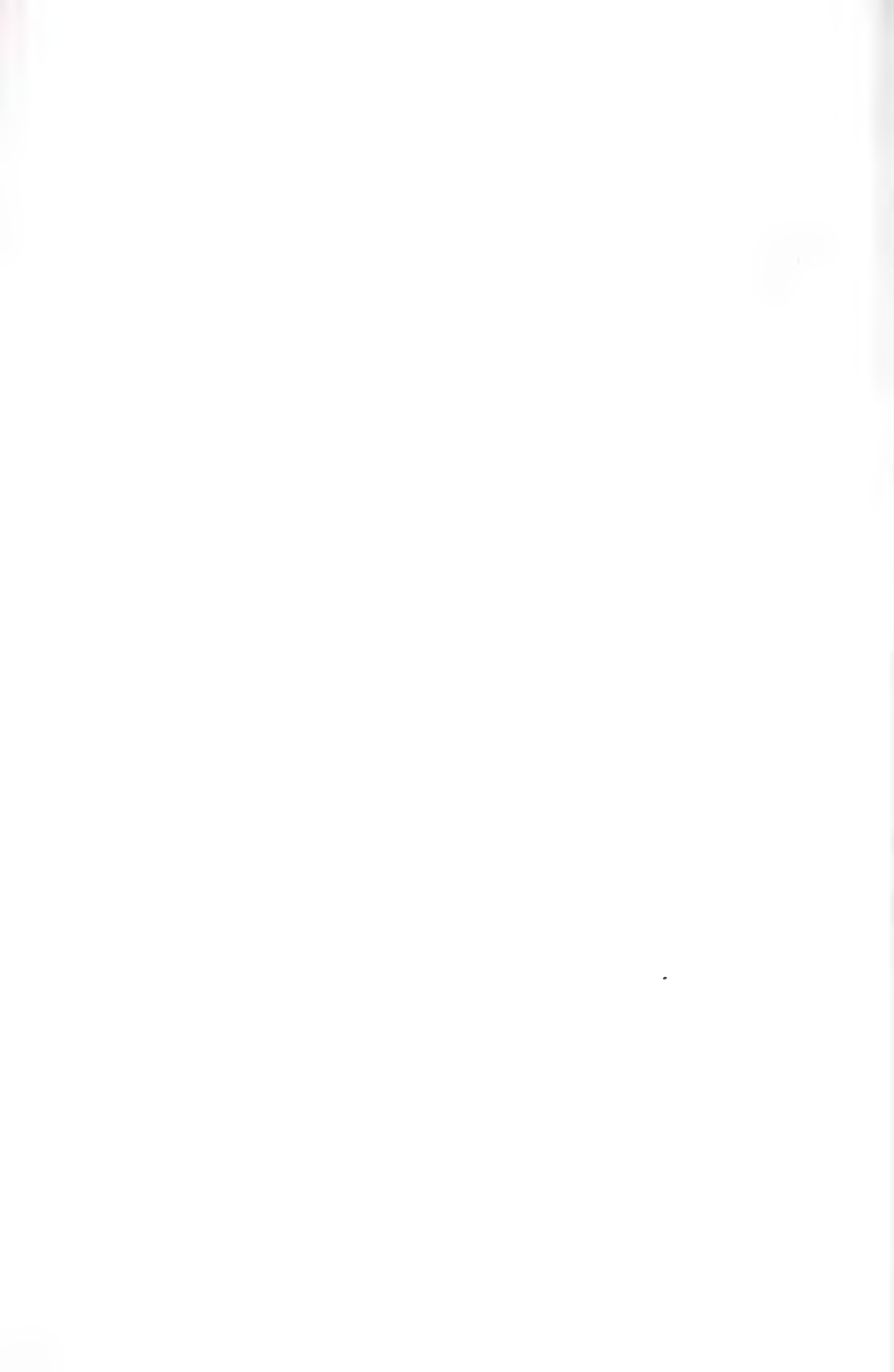


William Ryan, Co. I, 23d C. V.	Frederick D. Tomlinson, Co. E, 1st C. H. A.
L. H. Russell.	Elam M. Tongue.
Charles H. Russell, Major, 1st Md. Cav.	John W. Thompson.
James Reddy.	Horace Treat.
Walter L. Savage, 2d Lt. 10th C. V.	Geo. S. Thompson.
Fred'k O. Seeley, 2d C. Lt. Bat.	John L. Thomas.
Henry J. Seeley, 10th Indep. Lt. Bat.	Edmund Thompson, Corp. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
George A. Staples, 1st Serg. Co. I, C. V.	Frederick Uschman, Serg. Co. B, 68th N. Y. V.
Henry W. Stevens, Co. C, 14th C. V.	William Van Gasbeck, Co. D, 23d C. V.
Henry G. Stevens, Co. E, 31st N. Y. V.	George C. Waldo, Co. E, 2d C. V.
Charles W. Stevens, 1st Serg. Co. I, 7th C. V.	Patrick Wade, Jr., Serg. Co. K, 17th C. V.
Henry Stephens, Co. H, 25th N. Y. V.	Fred L. Warren, Co. A, 23d C. V.
Wm. W. Stevens, Corp. 2d C. Lt. Bat.	Frank J. Warner, Corp. Co. H, 2d C. H. A.
George C. Stewart, Co. C, 2d C. H. A.	Henry E. Waite, Co. K, 17th C. V.
Joseph Strasburger, Co. I, 23d C. V.	Eugene Ward, Lt. Co. B, Louisiana Engineers.
Henry Shadt, Serg. Co. G, 2d C. H. A.	Wm. N. Walsh, Co. K, 14th Mass. V.
John S. Selden, Co. B, 6th Mass. V.	Frank M. Welch, 1st Lt. Co. F, 54th Mass. V.
Charles E. Shelton, Corp. Co. I, 23d C. V.	Will H. Weicht, Co. L, 3d Pa. Cav.
John M. Speidel, Lt. Col. 1st and 6th C. V.	Osmer B. Wells.
John H. Sweet, Co. G, 7th C. V.	Wm. Wellington, Artificer, 34th Indep. Battery, N. Y. V.
Barnum Slocum, 1st Serg. Co. G, N. Y. V.	Frank H. Whiting, 1st Lt 2d C. Lt. Bat.
Samuel B. Sumner, Lt. Col. 49th Mass. V.	Wm. H. Whiting.
Henry Staggs.	Chas. E. Williams, Com. Serg. 2d N. Y. Cav.
James H. Smith, 1st Lt. Co. H, 43d N. Y. V.	Geo. E. Williams, Co. A, 2d C. V.
Frederick Smith, Co. K, 6th C. V.	Stephen H. Wright, Co. B, 75th N. Y. V.
James P. Smith, Co. K, 15th Mass. V.	Daniel Worcester.
Henry H. Smith, Corp. Co. I, 27th C. V.	Myron H. White, Corp. 2d C. Lt. Bat.
Charles L. Smith, Co. F, 17th C. V.	L. Whittaker.
Thomas P. Smith, Co. D, 192d N. Y. V.	Wm. H. Wheeler.
Seaman Hicks, Mus. Co. C, 2d C. H. A.	Sylvanus Wordin, Co. C, 10th N. Y. V.
Samuel Thorpe, Serg. Co. K, 17th C. V.	Wm. B. Wilcoxson.
Joseph Tyler, 1st Serg. Co. A, 10th C. V.	Frank J. Young, A. A. Surgeon, U. S. N.
Frank B. Taylor, Co. E, N. Y. V.	
Lyman M. Turney, Serg. U. S. Marines.	

List of Physicians in Bridgeport.

Daniel Clifford, was drowned June, 1781.	J. R. Cumming.	— Brown.
James Eaton Beach, 1778, d. 1838.	Elijah Gregory.	Henry H. Davidson.
Dr. Tisdale.	G. Ohnesorg.	C. E. Sanford.
Thomas Holman. ⁶²	A. E. Barber.	Curtis H. Bill.
Samuel Simons.	H. L. W. Burritt.	Francis J. Young.
William B. Nash.	George L. Beers.	Robert Lauder.
Samuel Beach.	L. H. Norton.	George L. Porter.
David H. Nash.	Ed. W. Winslow.	N. E. Wordin.
Frederick J. Judson.	G. F. Lewis.	Charles W. Sheffrey.
Hanford N. Bennett.	A. H. Abernethy.	A. A. Holmes.
Robert Hubbard.	Seth Hill.	George M. Teeple.
Joseph S. French.	William H. Hine.	Sidney Bishop.
	A. J. Smith.	Stanley P. Warren.
	Richard W. Bull.	Edward T. Ward.

⁶² Doctor Holman, the first missionary physician to the Sandwich Islands, returned to Bridgeport in 1822 and died here in 1826.



Martin J. Buesch.	Mary J. Rising.	A. M. Lyons.
Byron W. Munson.	W. B. Beebe.	A. N. Phillips.
F. M. Wilson.	W. H. Bunnell.	Jacob May.
John Becker.	J. W. Wright.	C. C. Godfrey.
William J. Wakeman.	F. B. Downs.	W. H. Donaldson.
T. F. Martin.	C. S. Hoag.	Samuel Garlick.
J. W. King.	W. C. Bowers.	Andrew Gilroy.
F. A. Rice.	H. P. Cole.	Henry Blodget.
B. F. Bronson.	W. T. Delamater.	John E. Kelly.

List of the Lawyers who have practiced in Bridgeport, with the date of their admittance to the bar, so far as could be ascertained, at the time.

Thaddeus Benedict, Stratford, 1797; died here Oct. 6, 1799.	Henry T. Blake, 1851, Fairfield Co.; Hartford Co. 1850.
Benjamin Hall.	John A. Boughton.
Pierrepont Edwards, New Haven about 1771. ⁶³	Stephen S. Blake, N. H. Co., 1872.
Charles Winton.	Ebenezer Burr, 1874, N. H. Co.; 1874, Fairfield Co.
Joseph Backus.	Israel M. Bullock, 1866; died Oct., 1879.
Alanson Hamlin.	Charles S. Canfield, 1875.
Joseph Wood.	Frank M. Canfield.
Fitch Wheeler.	Frederick Chittenden.
Mark Moore.	John C. Chamberlain, Olmstead Co., Minn., 1874; Fairfield Co., 1876.
Henry Dutton.	James H. Cooney.
James C. Loomis, 1832.	Joseph H. Collins.
Elisha S. Abernethy.	William H. Comley, 1884.
Richard C. Ambler, 1878.	Howard J. Curtis, 1883.
Oswald P. Backus, 1883.	Daniel Davenport, 1875.
Frank E. Baldwin.	Robert E. DeForest, N. H. Co., 1869.
Sidney B. Beardsley, 1843.	Charles A. Doten, 1872.
Morris B. Beardsley, 1872.	Theodore W. Downs, Litchfield Co. to Fairfield Co., 1874.
Alfred B. Beers, 1871.	
William D. Bishop, 1875.	
William D. Bishop, Jr., 1886.	

⁶³ Judge Pierrepont Edwards, son of the metaphysician, born at Northampton, Mass., April 8, 1750; died at Bridgeport, Conn., April 14, 1826, was graduated at Princeton College in 1768. His father being a missionary to the Stockbridge Indians, his youth was passed among them, and he acquired their language perfectly. He commenced the practice of law in New Haven in 1771; took an early and efficient part in the councils of Connecticut in favor of Independence; served in the Revolutionary army, and was in two hard fought battles, including that of Danbury. He was a member of the old Congress, 1787-8, and an able advocate for the Constitution of the United States, in the convention held to ratify it. He was judge of the United States district court of Connecticut at the time of his decease. He was the founder of the "Toleration party" in Connecticut, and by his ability and perseverance drew upon himself the animosity of the Calvinists. He was the first Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut, and was the father of H. W. and Ogden Edwards.



Frederick J. Fox.	Patrick Phelan, 1886.
VanRensselaer C. Giddings, Litchfield Co., 1861; Fairfield Co., 1869.	Frank L. Rodgers, 1881.
Louis K. Gould, 1882.	Joseph J. Rose, 1885.
Frederick B. Hall, 1871.	Henry S. Sanford, Litchfield Co., 1854.
Edwin F. Hall, 1881.	William K. Seeley, 1852.
William T. Haviland, 1882.	Morris W. Seymour.
David F. Hollister, 1851, Litchfield Co.; Fairfield Co., 1854.	Edward W. Seymour, 1856; Fairfield Co., 1876.
Gideon H. Hollister.	Cyrus M. Shelton, 1886.
Henry Hugins.	Henry T. Shelton, Jr.
William H. Kelsey, 1880.	William R. Shelton, 1872.
Frank L. Holt, 1877.	Charles Sherwood, 1875.
Sherman H. Hubbard, 1881.	Lucius M. Slade, N. Lond Co., 1861; Fairfield Co., 1863.
Frank J. Hughes.	Friend W. Smith, Jr., 1882.
Francis Ives, 1848.	Ernest L. Staples, 1883.
Joseph A. Joyce, 1878.	William H. Stevenson, 1878.
Bernard Keating, 1880.	Goodwin Stoddard, 1868.
Jacob B. Klein, 1883.	Isaac M. Sturges, 1837.
Howard H. Knapp.	E. Stewart Summer, 1878.
Frank G. Lewis.	Samuel B. Sumner, Mass., 1852; Fairfield Co., 1863.
David B. Lockwood, 1851.	Albert M. Tallmadge, 1877.
Michael C. McGuinness, 1878.	Curtis Thompson, Middlesex Co., 1864; Fairfield Co., 1864.
Hugh D. McGee.	Amos S. Treat, 1843; died 1886.
Edward F. Meeker, 1877.	Morris Tuttle.
Louis N. Middlebrook.	George W. Warner, 1848.
Eugene Morehouse, 1882.	Levi Warner.
Dwight Morris, 1841.	George W. Wheeler, Jr., 1883.
William H. Noble.	Mark D. Wilbur, Fairfield Co., 1877.
Frank P. Norman, 1879.	William C. Wildman.
Wilfred E. Norton, N. H. Co., 1867.	James A. Wilson, 1865; N. H., 1874.
J. Wilbur Parrott.	Albert M. Wooster, 1883.
Eugene B. Peck, 1875.	
John J. Phelan, 1878.	
Charles Bostwick. ⁶⁴	

⁶⁴ *Hon. Charles Bostwick* was graduated at Yale College in 1796, studied law under Judge Reeve at Litchfield, Conn., and was admitted to the bar of Fairfield county in 1799. He continued in the practice of the law at Bridgeport until 1810, when he removed to the city of New York, where he was extensively engaged in mercantile business until 1837, when he retired from business and resumed his residence at Bridgeport.

In 1840 he was elected mayor of the city and chief judge of the City Court.

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPERS

[A sermon, written in 1799, by the Rev. Philo Shelton.]

"A History of the Church of Fairfield."

On the 26th day of August, 1722, the Rev. Mr. Picket,¹ from Stratford, came to Fairfield and preached at the house of Mr. Thomas Hanford to about six families. This was the first time that divine service was performed in the town agreeable to the rites and usages of the Church of England. After this the people met and read prayers among themselves, and the Rev. Mr. Johnson, from Stratford, occasionally preached for them. On the 22d of June, 1725, a church was raised at Fairfield about one and a half miles west from the meeting house, and on the 10th of November following, it being a public thanksgiving day, the Rev. Doctor Johnson opened the new church with a sermon suitable to the occasion.

Somewhere about this time there was a law obliging people of all denominations to be taxed for the support of the Presbyterian worship. This the Episcopalians looked upon as a great grievance, and some had the resolution to refuse paying this tax and were committed to gaol. Of this number were Mr. Ward, of Fairfield, Glover and Hard, of Newtown.² Upon this a memorial was presented to the General Assembly, signed by the church wardens, of Fairfield, viz: praying to be excused from supporting worship in which they did not believe nor profess. Their prayer was

¹ This is intended to be a literal copy of Mr. Shelton's sermon, except the abbreviated words in the original are here spelled at length.

² This was the Rev. George Piggot.

³ It may be seen from these statements that but one person is named of Fairfield and two of Newtown as sent to jail, although there may have been others, and these all, probably, attended the church at Fairfield. The language "had the resolution to refuse paying this tax," and "upon this a memorial was presented to the General Assembly," suggests that they went to jail for the purpose of making a case in order to appeal to the Assembly with greater force, and thus secure a change in the law, which was the final result.

heard and the taxes of the Episcopalians might in future be applied to the support of their own profession in obliging them to be taxed in the same proportion by the Presbyterian committee and collected by their collectors and then paid over to the church clergyman or to the wardens, which law continued in existence until the American Independence.

The church people at Fairfield increasing some, they were very desirous to have a clergyman settled among them. They purchased a lot of land, about half an acre, with a house, for his accommodation and sent the deed by the hands of a certain Mr. Henry Canner to the society in England, praying that he might be clothed with Priest's Orders and settled over them. Their petition was heard and the Rev. Mr. Canner received to Fairfield in October, 1727, with a salary of fifty pounds sterling, per annum, and the people were very happy in his administrations and the church flourished under his ministry. The principal people that composed the church were Messrs. Ward, Adams, Wilson, Hanford, Jinnings, Lyon, Barlow, Beers, Sturges and others. The church that was first built was small, not sufficient now to contain the numbers. On the 9th of August, 1738, they raised another of fifty-four feet by thirty-six, with a steeple, and with the charitable donations from New York and the society in England, the house was finished very decently with a bell. The Rev. Mr. Canner continued at Fairfield as their minister until the year 1744. He was then, by the Missionaries' Society, removed to Boston, to the great grief of the Episcopalians of Fairfield, he being a man of eminent talents, a great preacher and an able defender of the doctrines of the church, and a very agreeable, engaging companion and neighbor. While he was at Fairfield the church flourished, her numbers increased, and all appeared to be happy. He was born in England, came to America in his youth, was educated at Yale College, studied divinity under Doctor Johnson, married a Miss McKinsey, daughter of Mr. — McKinsey. He continued a preacher in the church at Boston until the war broke out between Great Britain and America. When the British troops came there he left the town and returned to England and lived to be a very aged man, and finally died in peace and was gath-

ered to his Fathers, the Lord having prospered him in his work of the ministry, by which many souls were converted from the error of their ways, established in the faith, and rested in hope.

In the year 1745 the Rev. Mr. Joseph Lamson was ordained to the ministry and placed by the society in the church at Fairfield vacated by the Rev. Mr. Canner, with a salary equal to his predecessor. The members of the church having increased considerably, those who resided in the parish of Stratfield thought it too far to attend at Fairfield, exerted themselves, and in the year 1748 raised a church in the parish, and the next year it was opened and dedicated by the Rev. Doct. Johnson. The principal proprietors in building this church were Col. John Burr, Messrs. John Holberton, Timothy Wheeler, Joseph Seeley, John Nichols, Richard Hall, Samuel Beardsley, and others. This Colonel Burr was a man of singular abilities, of large property and a warm advocate for the church, having received his education in the Presbyterian profession, but when he arrived to mature age, he changed his profession. About this time Whitfield, Tenant, and other zealous preachers came through the country, fired the people with enthusiasm and an over-heated zeal for religion, which the Colonel looked upon as inconsistent with the true spirit of the gospel, which teaches order and good government to her children. He turned his attention to the study of the gospel and embraced the Church of England as being the most agreeable to the rules of our Blessed Saviour and his apostles. He spent the remainder of his days in the church and died in a good old age.

By this time the church people in the parishes of North-fairfield and Northfield having increased considerably and being at the distance of eight or ten miles from Fairfield church, they thought it best to build a church to accommodate those two societies. They accordingly in the year 1762 erected a frame and closed it, but soon after this, the Rev. Mr. Lamson being in a poor state of health, unable to officiate much in the out parishes, the church was not finished before the American war commenced, which seemed to stagnate all business. In the year 1773 Mr. Lamson sickened and died. He was born

at Stratford, educated at Yale College, conformed to the Church of England in the time of the Whitfieldian stir. He supported an honorable character, was much improved⁴ and esteemed as a physician as well as a divine. He left at his death a widow and five children—three daughters and two sons. In the time of his ministry, the liberal Mr. Talbart, of New York, made a visit to Fairfield and left as a benefit for the church a very handsome present, to the amount of at least one hundred pounds L. M.⁵ With some of this money the trustees of the church purchased a piece of land at a place called the Round Hill, about nine acres. One hundred dollars was put out to use in the hands of Mr. Jonathan Coley, which since has been collected and applied to the building of the new church, and another hundred dollars was put to use in the hands of Filer Dibble, who in the troublesome American war went to Novascotia, forfeited his estate and the church lost the debt. Mr. Talbart also furnished the Communion table with a set of plate, which in the time of the burning of the town by the British was either consumed or plundered, the latter I think is most probable.

In the year 1774 the Rev. Mr. John Sayre, from Fredericksburgh, was invited by the parish to take charge of the churches. He wrote to the society, acquainted them of the death of their missionary, Mr. Lamson, and informed them of the invitation of the people and should wait their approbation of acceptance. The society appointed him, agreeable to the request of the people, and fixed his salary at twenty-five pounds sterling per annum. Mr. Sayre was a man of superior abilities, a great preacher. He was rather inclining to the Calvinistic principles, but a high Tory. Soon after he settled at Fairfield the colonies revolted from Great Britain, which produced a bloody war, and in the contest in the year 1779, a party of the King's troops, under the command of Governor Tryon, came to Fairfield, took possession of the town, plundered it and then burnt it, without any distinction to friend or foe. In the general conflagration the church was consumed and the parsonage house, together with the library,

⁴ This means he was much called for as a minister.

⁵ L. M.—lawful money.

which was kept in the parsonage. The library contained some hundreds of volumes. The church records shared the same fate. This was a most fatal blow to the Episcopal society of Fairfield—losing the church, the parsonage, the library, the plate; and at this time Mr. Sayre with his family left the town and never returned again, together with a number of the principal inhabitants.

The remainder thought it not best to hang their harps upon the willows and give up the church for lost, but relying on the promises of God that the church should never be extinct, they called a meeting of the three several churches, viz: Fairfield, Stratfield and Northfairfield, to take into consideration what was best to be done. They were unanimously of opinion that it was their duty to keep the church together and have divine service performed among them until they could be supplied with a clergyman. They appointed a committee to look out for some candidate to read prayers for them, and upon inquiry they heard of Mr. Philo Shelton, of Ripton, to whom they applied and he engaged to open church for them until they should be otherwise supplied. He continued their reader until Bishop Seabury returned from Europe clothed with Episcopal authority to ordain and govern the church, and in August, 1785, Mr. Shelton was admitted to the order of Deacon in Christ Church, Middletown, by the Right Rev. Bishop Seabury, and to Priest's Orders in Trinity Church, New Haven, in September following, by the same prelate, and settled over the churches of Fairfield, Stratfield and Weston, with a living of one hundred pounds L. M. per annum, with the use of what lands belonged to said church.

In the year 1790 the Episcopalians thought it best to exert their abilities and see if they could not get them another house. They went to work and in June raised a frame of fifty-six feet by thirty-four, with a steeple, and by September following they closed it so as we were able to meet in it. The church stands about one mile west from where the last stood, at a place called Millplain.

There is belonging to this church a piece of land laying at Round Hill about two miles from the State house, also the

half acre where the parsonage house formerly stood, both of which pieces are in the possession of the present incumbent. There is no other property belonging to either of the three churches.

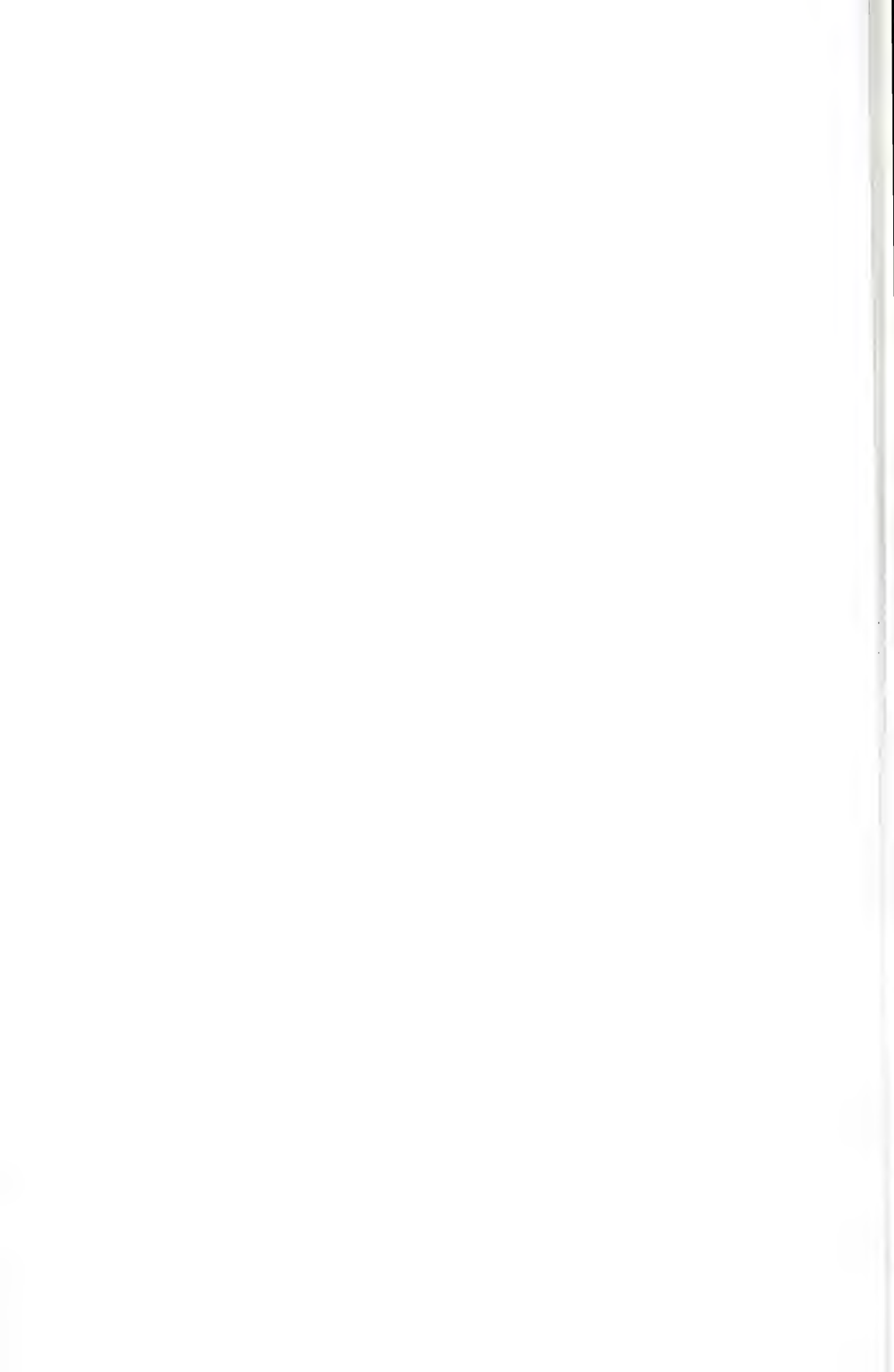
The church at Stratfield was not finished until the year 1789, and then it was consecrated by the Right Rev. Doctor Seabury. The one at Fairfield was consecrated by the Right Rev. Doctor Jarvis, the 18th of October, 1798.

The number of families belonging to the three churches is about 200; communicants, 150 (only one of color). All those of proper age have been confirmed. There have been baptized by the Rev. Mr. Shelton since August, 1785, until February, 1799, 800 souls, 25 of which, adults.

The borough at Stratfield populating much faster than the other parts of the parish, the greatest number of Episcopalians living in that part of the society, it was thought best by many that the church should be placed there. A meeting was called to take the minds of the members and it was thought advisable to pull the old church down and build a new one out of the materials, as far as they would go. The vote was taken and [was] almost unanimous so to do, and in March, 1801, the church was razed⁶ to the ground, and on the 2d of July following another frame was erected in the borough at Bridgeport, 58 feet by 38, closed, glazed and floored, so as to meet in on the 29th of November following. While the church was in building they met sometimes in the school house and sometimes in the meeting house, where they were invited by the Presbyterians."

Bridgeport Ladies' Charitable Society.—In the year 1813 a voluntary association was formed in Bridgeport under the name of the Bridgeport Female Benevolent Society, for the purpose of assisting persons and families needing aid; and consequently it has been actively engaged in its charitable work for about seventy-three years. The name of the association was afterwards changed to the Bridgeport Ladies' Charitable Society.

⁶ This word is not Mr. Shelton's; some one has erased the original, which, apparently, was another word.



At the January session of the General Assembly of 1884, a charter was granted authorizing it to hold property, real and personal, free from taxation, not exceeding fifty thousand dollars, to have and use a common seal, to adopt constitution and by-laws, and to do and perform all acts proper and necessary to accomplish the objects of the association.

At the time of the organization of this society in 1813, there was want and poverty among families whose husbands were in the war, and great destitution among those Indians who still hung around their old hunting and fishing grounds. Several ladies meeting with Mrs. Capt. Abijah Hawley to sew and make garments for these poor people, it was suggested to form a society, and Mrs. Polly Hawley was chosen president. Rev. Elijah Waterman, at that time pastor of the North Congregational Church, wrote the constitution, the same as in use to-day, the only written record we have of the society until the past twenty years. Mrs. S. B. Furgeson, who died in 1886, was eighteen years of age when this society was organized, and she was in some way connected with it until her death. The names following were the first managers: Mrs. Abijah Hawley, Mrs. William Peet, Mrs. Isaac Hinman, Mrs. Sylvanus Sterling, Mrs. Isaac Burroughs, Mrs. Reuben Tweedy, Mrs. Capt. Daniel Sterling. They worked earnestly, made over old garments, and with membership fees bought new cloth for sheets and pillow cases, lent them to the sick and poor as circumstances required, and when the emergency was over gathered the soiled linen, cleansed it by washing, for next applicant. Mrs. Hawley was president for a number of years, it then had monthly meetings, as now, with sociability, and it is a remarkable fact, that to the present time they have been of nearly regular occurrence. The following persons have filled successively the office of president: Mrs. William Peet, Mrs. Isaac Hinman, Mrs. Sylvanus Sterling, then her sister, Mrs. Ira Sherman, Mrs. Capt. David Sterling, Mrs. S. B. Furgeson, Mrs. P. T. Barnum, Mrs. Gasford Sterling, Mrs. D. B. Nichols, Mrs. Q. H. Whiting (who is still a manager), Mrs. H. L. Sturdevant, who filled the office for about twenty years, with the exception of one year, when Mrs. E. A. Lewis filled the office; Mrs. Sturde-

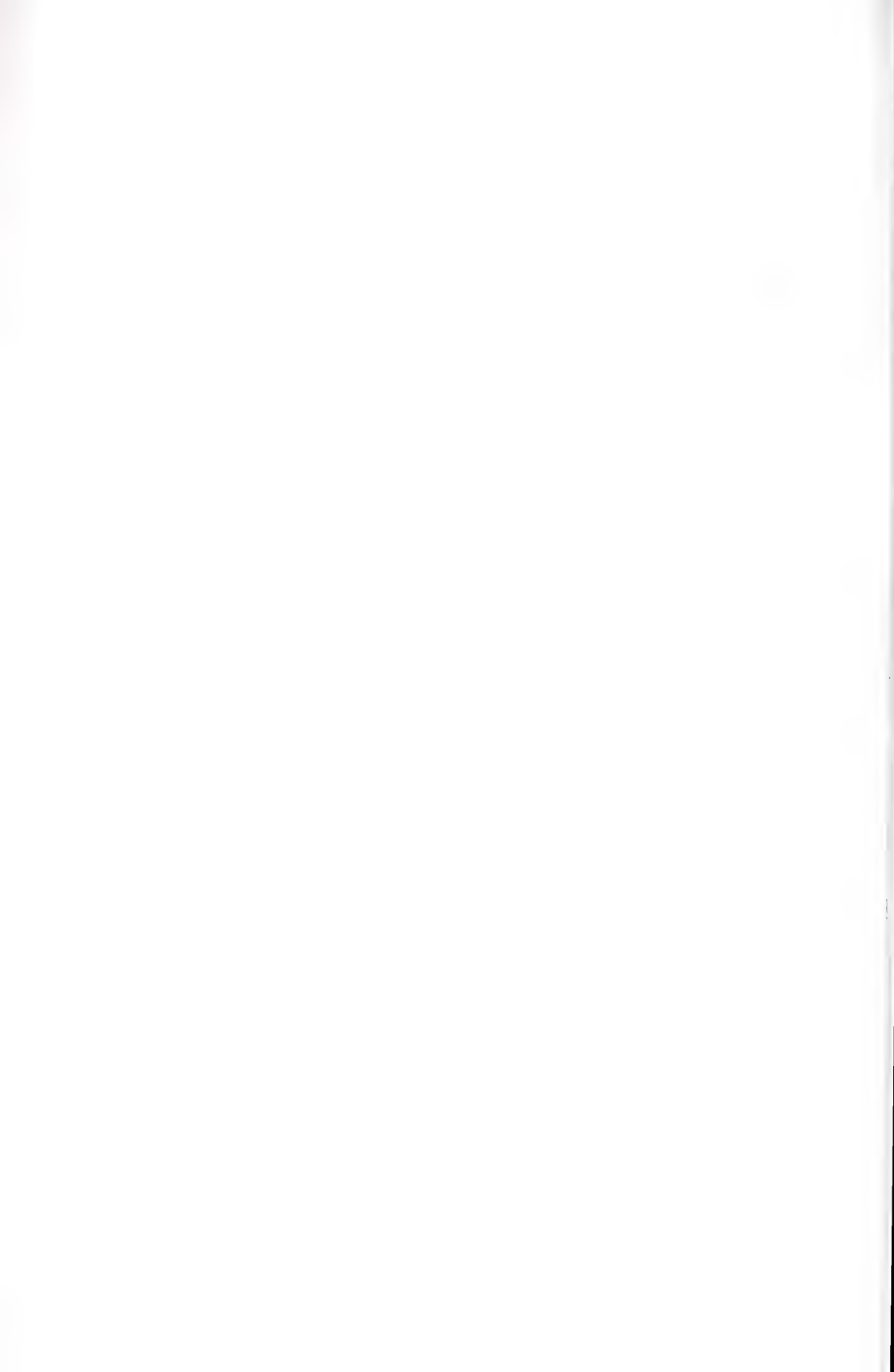
vant died in the spring of 1886, when Mrs. Russell Tomlinson, who was vice-president, was elected president.

The following ladies, who have done their work so nobly and left their influence to cheer the generation of to-day, many of them were managers from twenty to forty and more years: Mrs. Abijah Hawley, Mrs. William Peet, Mrs. H. K. Harral, Mrs. Longworth, Mrs. Dr. Simons, Mrs. L. H. Coleman, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Reuben Tweedy, Mrs. Henry Shelton, Mrs. Russell Tomlinson, Mrs. W. S. Knowlton, Mrs. Matilda Hawley, Mrs. S. F. Hurd, Mrs. Sherman Hartwell, Mrs. Ira B. Wheeler, Mrs. Isaac Hinman, Mrs. Capt. Daniel Sterling, Mrs. Alfred Bishop, Mrs. Jessie Sterling, Mrs. Dr. William B. Nash, Mrs. Kirtland, Mrs. Joseph Thompson, Mrs. Ezra Curtis, Mrs. P. T. Barnum, Mrs. Gideon Thompson, Mrs. Tallman Perry, Mrs. G. B. Waller, Mrs. James Moore, Mrs. Henry Wheeler, Mrs. S. B. Furgeson, Mrs. Capt. John Brooks, Mrs. H. L. Sturdevant.

Ex-managers now living: Mrs. Dr. David Nash, Mrs. P. C. Calhoun, Mrs. D. B. Nichols, Mrs. James C. Loomis, Mrs. Henry Thompson, Mrs. S. J. Patterson, Mrs. Frederic Lyon, Mrs. William Sherman, Mrs. James Moore, Mrs. Thomas Cruttenden, Mrs. George Burroughs, Mrs. Stephen Silliman, Mrs. Gasford Sterling, Mrs. John Knowles, Mrs. Edward Sterling, Mrs. D. C. Peck, Mrs. Benjamin Ray, Mrs. S. M. Middlebrook, Mrs. Legrand Sterling, Mrs. William H. Noble, Mrs. Samuel Baldwin, Mrs. Levi Parrott.

The present officers are: President, Mrs. Russell Tomlinson; Vice-President, Mrs. Friend W. Smith; Secretary, Mrs. L. H. Norton; Treasurer, Mrs. George W. Barker; Directresses: Mrs. Frederic W. Parrott, Mrs. E. L. Gaylord, Mrs. E. A. Lewis. Advisory Committee: Hon. William D. Bishop, Mr. James Staples, and Henry R. Parrott. The present Board of Managers: Mrs. Bronson Hawley, Mrs. I. H. Whiting, Mrs. M. A. Garland, Mrs. Munson Hawley, Mrs. F. W. Parrott, Mrs. C. B. Hotchkiss, Mrs. James Staples, Mrs. Russell Tomlinson, Mrs. Friend W. Smith, Mrs. L. H. Norton, Mrs. G. W. Barker, Mrs. E. L. Gaylord, Mrs. E. A. Lewis, Mrs. C. R. Hayward, Mrs. George Somers.

The work of the managers has materially changed since



the organization of this society. The community in the early days was comparatively small, there was no risk of harming the poor and degrading them to the condition of paupers; the giver and receiver of alms did not lose sight of each other, so that gifts were made with moral benefit to both. But such a state of things could not last: as the population increased the classes became more widely separated, and at this day it is found necessary to thoroughly investigate all cases—through the kindness of the city officers, who give the society the use of rooms in Wheeler's Block, where its executive meetings are held weekly, where the poor make known their wants; a detailed account of all applications are made, and after thorough investigation, in order that all cases of real distress may at all times be reached, and those who are in health and not in need of assistance may receive no further support from this society, but are directed to the care of the Industrial Relief Society, where they are taught to help themselves.

Mr. Alfred Bishop endowed this society with the interest of five thousand dollars, and the following legacies have been received: Mrs. Fayerweather, \$500; Mrs. Lorenzo B. Sterling, \$1000; Mrs. A. A. Pettengill, \$2000; Mrs. William S. Pomeroy, \$500.

The Associated Charities for Industrial Relief, organized in March, 1886, has far exceeded the expectations of the faithful women who have for so many years been engaged in the various charities of Bridgeport, and discussed the great question: How are we to prevent the pauperization of our poor? How are we to be loving and yet wise in our charity? By thorough investigation it has been proved that other methods must be devised; that nine-tenths of the destitution and suffering of the poor has its origin in the home, the ignorance and improvidence of themselves, and unless the homes are reached and the poor can be weaned from habits of dependence by pointing out, in a kindly spirit, the disgrace it entails, no permanent good can be obtained.

About forty ladies met at the house of Mrs. L. H. Norton to consider this subject; the meeting was called to order by



Mrs. Russell Tomlinson, Mrs. Henry H. Pyle was made presiding officer, and Mrs. L. H. Norton, Secretary. The following Saturday, in a room in Wheeler's Block, provided by the mayor of the city, a committee of five or six ladies met those poor women who would show a disposition to help themselves, and finding much interest manifested, continued to do so for several months, teaching the mothers and children to make garments and paying them for the time in garments or groceries. The growth of the work necessitated a change and the residence of the late Capt. John Brooks, corner Main and Gilbert streets, was rented, a matron secured, and with the noble women who compose the board of managers, the work will grow to be an example of true charity.

The leading idea of the society is to help the poor ultimately to do without help; in case of those already pauperized to induce them to rely more upon themselves and less upon others—the first object is to interest the children, who meet at the “home” every Saturday afternoon, where they are taught to sew, and some of the little girls have made such progress that they from the overhand seam, are now able to make a garment, and some are in advance of their mothers, who meet every Thursday afternoon.

The department of domestic service includes the training of young women in all branches of household work, with a view to better meet the requirements of domestic service; the aim is to inculcate the right estimate of the dignity of household service, to encourage a class of girls to choose the family as a means of support. Cooking classes have been arranged covering all grades of family cooking, giving young women opportunity for practical instruction; in many homes where the food is not properly prepared, there is much waste, and the husband and father become discouraged and resort to the saloons for the free lunch to satisfy their appetites, when if the table at home was supplied with properly prepared, nutritious, though not expensive food, it would soon wean him from such resorts and the family would be united and happy. The laundry gives work to those who wish to be taught in that department. The day nursery, an interesting department where poor women who are anxious to be self-



dependent can leave their children through the day, while they are providing for themselves rather than asking charity.

This work was commenced with small contributions of the ladies at the first meeting and used for material to work with at the first Saturday meeting. Other amounts were generously contributed by charitably disposed ladies; with the fees of the managers and members the work went on.

July 13, 1886, a lawn party was suggested. Mr. E. C. Bassick very kindly opened his house and grounds, corner of Hancock and Fairfield avenues, the grounds were brilliantly lighted and the public manifested by their contributions and attendance a great interest in the work, and the sum of three hundred and seven dollars and twelve cents (\$307.12) was realized. After having assumed the rent of a house, matron, etc., more funds were needed and the "Feast of the New Moon," a very successful entertainment, both socially and financially, was given in the Armory building for five successive nights, the first week in December, realizing about five thousand six hundred dollars.

A meeting of the executive committee is held weekly and the result is submitted at the monthly meetings of the board of managers; also, each department has a standing committee and meet as circumstances require and report either to the executive or board of managers.

The payment of one dollar per year will entitle to membership and a vote in the annual meetings.

Officers: President, Mrs. Henry H. Pyle; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Henry R. Parrott, Mrs. David M. Read; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Curtiss H. Bill; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Lucian H. Norton; Treasurer, Mrs. William B. Hincks. Executive Committee with the above: Mrs. E. C. Bassick, Mrs. J. P. Omans, Mrs. D. B. Lockwood, Mrs. W. H. Perry, Mrs. F. W. Smith, Mrs. T. B. Warren, Mrs. A. Steward. Board of Managers: Mrs. P. T. Barnum, Mrs. E. F. Bishop, Mrs. N. Wheeler, Mrs. L. H. Norton, Mrs. A. Wheeler, Mrs. J. A. Joyce, Mrs. Conrad Becker, Mrs. E. Sterling, Mrs. J. P. Omans, Mrs. D. B. Lockwood, Mrs. E. A. Lewis, Mrs. H. R. Parrott, Mrs. W. H. Perry, Mrs. F. W. Smith, Mrs. E. C. Bassick, Mrs. A. A. Howes, Mrs. Edwin

Sanford, Mrs. E. L. Gaylord, Mrs. R. Tomlinson, Mrs. D. M. Read, Mrs. S. Grumman, Mrs. J. S. Atkinson, Mrs. S. W. Baldwin, Mrs. W. Platt, Mrs. G. W. Barker, Mrs. Susan Olds, Mrs. C. E. Wilmot, Mrs. H. H. Pyle, Mrs. J. C. Loomis, Mrs. E. W. Marsh, Mrs. Julia Nichols, Mrs. J. Whitney, Mrs. A. Steward, Mrs. Godfrey Veit, Mrs. C. H. Bill, Mrs. Henry Sanford, Mrs. H. M. Harrington, Mrs. William E. Seeley, Mrs. C. K. Averill, Mrs. I. DeVer Warner, Mrs. W. B. Hincks, Mrs. T. B. Warren, Mrs. W. F. Gilman, Mrs. G. B. Richardson, Miss Matilda Lewis, Miss Julia Sanford, Miss Fannie Lewis. Advisory Committee: Hon. P. T. Barnum, Hon. Nathaniel Wheeler, Hon. Henry H. Pyle, Hon. C. Fones, Hon. William D. Bishop, G. C. Waldo, Edward Sterling, D. M. Read, H. R. Parrott, James L. Gould, I. DeVer Warner, D. B. Lockwood, E. F. Strong, James Staples.

Beside the board of managers there are about five hundred members.

Benjamin Brooks was son of Capt. Benjamin Brooks, son of John Brooks, Esq., of Stratford, Conn. His mother was Rebecca Sherman, daughter of James and Sarah (Cooke) Sherman, of New Haven. Sarah Sherman was a descendant of Governor William Leete, of the Colony of Connecticut, and daughter of the Rev. Samuel Cooke, Congregational minister of Stratfield. James Sherman was a grandson of Mr. Samuel Sherman, of Stratford, Assistant 1662 to 1664, Deputy to the General Court, etc. Benjamin Brooks was born in East Bridgeport (New Pasture Point), March 3, 1778. At an early age he went many voyages to sea with his father, and having relatives at Berlice—his father's sister had married Governor Van Battenburg of that province—he was induced to enter mercantile life at Nassau, New Providence. He was married in 1810, to Harriet Jones, daughter of Isaac Jones, Esq., of New Haven, and Sibyl Benjamin, of Stratford. Isaac Jones, her father, was a great-grandson of Deputy-Governor William Jones, who married Hannah, the daughter of Governor Theophilus Eaton, first governor of the Colony of New Haven—from 1638 to 1657. Sibyl Benjamin was a daughter of Colonel John Benjamin, of Stratford, and Lucre-



tia (Backus) Benjamin, who came, through a line of notable ancestors, from William Backus, of Saybrook and Norwich, and William Bradford, of the Mayflower.

Three children were born to Mr. Brooks at Nassau, New Providence, and in 1816 he returned with his family to his native place, East Bridgeport, and purchased the house, now nearly one hundred years old and occupied by his daughter, Mrs. William H. Noble. He made many improvements in the house and grounds and added some 300 acres from this homestead to Old Mill. This, as he had been lame from youth with rheumatism, he put under the charge of an overseer. The land was highly cultivated, 300 sheep besides cattle raised thereon, and this interested and engaged his attention for many years, until from ill health it became a burden, and was sold in 1837.

After his return from the West Indies he took great interest in his native place, entering into all its improvements, sometimes, as his health would allow, filling public offices of the town, and until his death an honored member of the masonic fraternity. He was for many years vestryman of old St. John's Church, giving freely of his means for its support, and a silver christening bowl and ewer for its service, which are still used. Never did he absent himself from church or allow his children to do so except on account of illness. His wife died at the age of 39, leaving him with nine young children; of these, seven daughters were all confirmed in the old St. John's Church.

He was a man of the most hospitable and generous nature, always keeping a room and bed in the basement of his house for any wayfarers, never turning his face from any poor man, and not one was known to abuse his hospitality. Every Thanksgiving and Christmas he sent a feast to the inmates of the Poor House, and one of his daughters with a purse to divide its contents among the aged and infirm.

He was a man of high honor and good integrity, a gentleman of the old school of politeness, was of great independence and originality of character, but very genial in his nature, drawing around him a host of friends and beloved by the poor whom he assisted, not alone with money, but with



good advice and interest in their welfare. He always entertained a most humble opinion of his own merits and was most charitable in his judgment of others, speaking kindly of them or keeping silent. A man of intelligence and something of a philosopher, he was beloved and respected by every one, many of those he had befriended following his remains to the grave, April 7, 1847.

Charles Theophilus Nicholls, son of Philip and Mary (Prince) Nicholls, was born at Newfield, now Bridgeport, July 21, 1771, and was educated at the celebrated Dwight Academy at Greenfield Hill, Fairfield County, Conn. As early as 1794 he began as a merchant, in connection with his father's coasting vessels, in his native village, in the first store in that locality, which store was built by his father. Not long after he sailed as supercargo from New York to New Orleans, West Indies and foreign ports. When about thirty-five years of age his brig was wrecked near Key West, and he being exposed for forty-eight hours on the waters, passed through a severe sickness with fever, from which he suffered greatly at times through the remainder of his life. Returning home he again engaged as a merchant under the firm name of Foote and Nicholls. At that time he became engaged in military matters and held the position for some years of paymaster on the staff of Colonel Enoch Foote, of the 4th regiment of cavalry of the 4th brigade of Connecticut cavalry, from which he received an honorable discharge from General Joseph Walker.

In 1815 he purchased the house and land on the corner of what is now Stratford avenue and Pembroke street, East Bridgeport, of Hon. R. G. Van Polanen, which house had been built about the year 1800, and occupied some years by General Enoch Foote. He also purchased considerable land property at that time and engaged in farming enterprises. In 1817 he was a member of a copartnership under the name of Hyde, Nichols and Company, for general trade, on the corner of Main and State streets. In 1828 he became a silent partner with Hyde and Shelton, Mr. Henry Shelton, his nephew and faithful friend, assuming his position in the old

company and afterwards conducting the business in his own name many years.

Mr. Nicholls for twenty-five years preceding his decease, was debarred from all active business by ceaseless suffering, which he endured with calm and patient fortitude, and for the last ten years of his life was unable to leave his house.

He was confirmed by Bishop Seabury and became a communicant in St. John's Church in 1788, of which his brother-in-law, Rev. Philo Shelton, was the rector for forty years from 1785. He was for years warden of this church, but resigned because of illness, and hence inability to serve. In the ecclesiastical designation of those days he was called a high churchman and sympathised with the views of Bishop Hobart, of whom he was a great admirer.

On February 17, 1808, Charles T. Nicholls married Sarah Lewis Tomlinson, daughter of Jabez H. Tomlinson, of Oronoque, in Stratford, born February 27, 1789. They had two children: Ann Eliza, who married William Sumner Johnson, of New York, and George Huntington Nicholls, D.D., now of Hoosac Falls, N. Y.

Mrs. Sarah L. Nicholls, the devoted wife, departed this life April 3, 1821, aged 32 years.

Mr. Nicholls married for his second wife Mrs. Harriet (Heller) Morris, widow of David Morris, of New York. Her father, the Rev. James Heller, was chaplain of one of the Hessian regiments serving in the English army during the war of the Revolution. She died at Yonkers, N. Y., about 1860, where she spent the later years of her life.

Mr. Charles T. Nichols died October 9, 1849, aged 78 years.

George Kneeland Nichols, the great-grandson of Capt. Joseph Nichols and son of Hezekiah Nichols and Avis Peet, was born in the old Nichols house at Nichols' Farms, January 23, 1818. He married Armina deLyon Seeley, eldest daughter of Munson Seeley, of Easton, Conn., who was descended from John deLyon and the Earls of Strathmore and Kinghorn. Mrs. Nichols, through both of her grandmothers, who were cousins, is a lineal descendant of Lady Jane Stuart. On her father's side she is in direct line from Colonel Seeley, who



held the military occupancy of Long Island under the British crown. She is distantly related to ex-Governor Seeley, of New Jersey, and through the Osborne-Seeleys connected with Albert Bierstadt, the celebrated painter.

With the patrimony inherited from the Nichols estate George K. Nichols embarked with his brother, David Stiles Nichols, in the manufacture of coaches at Nichols' Farms, their business relations being mostly in Texas and the Southern States. David S. Nichols was succeeded by James K. Nichols, a brother of George K. Nichols, and who married Elizabeth Seeley, the sister of Mrs. George K. Nichols. The firm of Nichols and Brother, whose business was of large proportions and of wide repute, encountered heavy losses in the war of the rebellion. Before the war Mr. George K. Nichols, who had successfully conducted a carriage repository in Broadway, New York, in the interest of the firm, had to return to Nichols' Farms to help supply the demand for carriages from the South. The Mexican coaches made by the firm were of high repute.

After the financial losses at the outbreak of the war, the business was revived on a much smaller scale, the present stock company being formed under the name of Nichols, Peck and Company, but Mr. Peck soon died, since which time the business has been chiefly owned by the Nichols brothers. In 1862 George K. Nichols went to Rochester, N. Y., remaining through the war in charge of the repository of the firm in that city, and while there was president of a paint manufacturing company formed in that city. Nichols, Peck and Company had all along received orders for carriages from Australia, and a large and lucrative trade with that country ensued for years. In 1873 the Nichols Brothers removed their business to Bridgeport, of which city Mr. George K. Nichols remains a resident. His brother James K. Nichols, died about 1883, and since then the business has been chiefly owned and managed by Mr. George K. Nichols, the trade being almost exclusively with New York City. Mr. Nichols was in former years somewhat active in gold and silver mining stocks, and also the invention of a spring perch for carriages.

The children of George K. and Armina (Seeley) Nichols are: Charles Wilber deLyon Nichols and Lavinia Armina Nichols; the latter deceased in 1872.

The children of James K. and Elizabeth (Seeley) Nichols were: Harriet, deceased; Eliza, who married Walter Nichols, of New York; Frances S.; Mary L., who married J. V. Singleton, of Waterbury; and Carrie Josephine.

Eden Burroughs, D.D., son of Stephen Burroughs, the first, and Ruth (Nichols) Burroughs, was born in what is now North Bridgeport, Conn., in January, 1738. He was graduated at Yale College in 1757; licensed by Fairfield East Association, May 30, 1759, and was ordained pastor of the South Church, Killingly, in January, 1760. He was dismissed from this church in 1771, and installed pastor of the church in Hanover, New Hampshire, September 1, 1772, and died May 22, 1813, aged 75 years. He was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Dartmouth College in 1773, and was one of its overseers from that year until his death.

Stephen Burroughs, son of the above Dr. Eden Burroughs, was born in 1765 and became a notorious imposter and counterfeiter. He published an autobiography, partly in justification of his course of life, in 1811, and a reprint of it was issued in New York in 1852. The copies are seldom met with, but are still extant. In 1799, and for a few years, he and his family resided with his father in Hanover, New Hampshire. He afterwards removed to Canada and died in that country at Three Rivers, January 28, 1840. He visited his relatives in Stratford several times, and is said to have been an intelligent, fine appearing person. He had an only son, who went to England and became a member of Parliament, and a daughter, who became Mother Superior in a convent at Three Rivers.

Fayerweather.—The husband of Abigail (Curtis) Fayerweather lived at Long Hill, on the Newtown road, about four miles north of Bridgeport. He was killed in the French war about 1760, on or near Lake Champlain. The family afterwards removed to the northwestern part of the present

town of Easton, known as the Blanket Meadow District. The mind of the widow was greatly unsettled, which impaired her usefulness, but she lived to a great age. Her children were :

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph. + | 3. Samuel, b. in 1761; d. in 1848, |
| 2. Zalmon. + | aged 87. |

1. Joseph Fayerweather, son of — and Abigail (Curtis) Fayerweather, married Rachel Beers in March, 1789, and had :

- | | |
|---|--|
| 4. Curtis, who married Sally Johnson, and had John, Julia, William and Walter. | Hayes, of Stepney and Sandy Hook. |
| 5. Eunice, who married Eben Sherman, son of Ebenezer, of Newtown, and lived in Redding. | 9. Phebe; died young. |
| 6. Lucretia, who married Elias Sanford, of Sandy Hook. | 10. Abigail; married David Beach, of Trumbull. |
| 7. Anna; died young. | 11. Sally; married Seth Andrews, of Bethel, Conn. |
| 8. Ruth Ann; married William | 12. Peter, who married Eliza Green, and had John and a Daughter. |
| | 13. Polly, who married Hiram Parmelee. |

2. Zalmon Fayerweather, son of — and Abigail (Curtis) Fayerweather, married 1st, Jerusha Adams, Jan. 25, 1787. He married 2d, Eunice Turney. His children by his first wife were :

- | | |
|---|---|
| 14. Anna, who married William Curtis, of Trumbull, and had Carlos Curtis, of Bridgeport, and Spencer Curtis, of Trumbull. | 15. Elnathan, who went West. |
| | 16. Ransom, who went West. |
| | 17. Roswell, who married Alonzo Gilbert, of Birmingham, Conn. |

3. Samuel Fayerweather, son of — and Abigail (Curtis) Fayerweather, married Charity Burton, daughter of Joseph Burton, of Long Hill. She was born April 12, 1760.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 18. Lucius, b. Jan. 17, 1792, and died June 30, 1828. He married Amelia, daughter of Aaron Beardsley; Nov. 9, 1814, and had Charles Beardsley, b. Feb. 15, 1816, and died May 21, 1828; William, b. May 4, 1818; Daniel Burton, b. Mar. 12, 1822; Aaron B., b. July 12, 1825, died July 4, 1824. | 19. Stephen, who married Almy, daughter of Thomas Lyon, of Easton, and had Samuel, of Michigan, Rebecca, Jane, George, Joseph, Stephen, Eliza and James. |
| | 20. Daniel Burton, who married Naomi, daughter of Aaron Beardsley, Dec. 22, 1819, and had Marcus, who died young. |



The Old Fort of 1812, at Bridgeport, was located on Welles' Tongue, it being still visible at the east end of the Seaside Park pavilion, at Bridgeport outer harbor. In its construction an embankment was raised several feet high, oval shaped, and about ninety feet by fifty. Within was a magazine and places for two cannon. The testimony of all persons who have been consulted is that it was a fort made in 1812.

The Scientia Club, a new society in Bridgeport, has for its general object the acquirement and dissemination of knowledge, and for its utilization or application all methods which may seem best to subserve the interests of society at large. It was, however, specially organized for the "Prevention of premature burial, or burial alive," and to teach "Giving, first aid to the injured, to provide for the training of nurses, who shall render skilled service for humane reasons, gratuitously, or at economical rates; to give instruction in the culinary art, household management and domestic economy, hygiene and sanitary conditions, and to otherwise seek to ameliorate and improve the conditions of the living." The society dates its existence from August 18, 1886. Its organizers and promoters are: T. E. Peck, H. E. Bowser, F. Hindsley, and others.

The Fourth Regiment, C. N. G., Headquarters at Bridgeport.

List of the Field and Staff Officers, Fourth Regiment, Connecticut National Guard, since the change from Eighth Regiment, August 1, 1871.

Colonel Heusted W. R. Hoyt, Greenwich, Aug. 21, 1871, resigned March 24, 1877.

Lt. Col. William E. Seeley, Bridgeport, Aug. 21, 1871, resigned Sept. 5, 1872.

Major Robert B. Fairchild, Bridgeport, Aug. 21, 1871, promoted Lt. Col. Sept. 2, 1872.

1st Lieut. David T. Hubbell, Adjutant, Bethel, Aug. 21, 1871, rank changed to Captain Aug. 1, 1874. [See below.]

Major James E. Barbour, Surgeon, Norwalk, Aug. 21, 1871, resigned July 15, 1876.

1st Lieut. George F. Lewis, Asst. Surgeon, Bridgeport, Aug. 21, 1871, promoted Surgeon Aug. 15, 1876.

1st Lieut. Charles Olmstead, Quartermaster, Norwalk, Aug. 21, 1871, resigned May 28, 1877.

1st Lieut. Joseph C. Randle, Paymaster, Norwalk, Aug. 21, 1871, resigned May 28, 1877.

- Captain Seneca Howland, Chaplain, Greenwich, Aug. 21, 1871, reappointed without rank of Captain, May 4, 1875. [See below.]
- Lt. Col. Robert B. Fairchild, Bridgeport, Sept. 2, 1872, promoted Colonel April 19, 1877.
- Major George S. Crofut, Bethel, Sept. 2, 1872, promoted Lt. Col. April 19, 1877.
- Captain David T. Hubbell, Adjutant, Bethel, July 25, 1874, resigned May 13, 1884.
- Seneca Howland, Chaplain, Greenwich, January 2, 1875, resigned May 28, 1877.
- *Major George F. Lewis, Surgeon, Bridgeport, July 31, 1876.
- 1st Lieut. Charles P. Uhle, Asst. Surgeon, Norwalk, July 31, 1876, honorably discharged June 8, 1877.
- *Captain Samuel C. Kingman, I. R. P., Bridgeport, July 31, 1876.
- Colonel Robert B. Fairchild, Bridgeport, April 6, 1877, died Sept. 12, 1878.
- Lt. Col. George S. Crofut, Bethel, April 6, 1877, promoted Colonel Oct. 25, 1878.
- Major Henry Skinner, West Winsted, April 6, 1877, promoted Lt. Col. Oct. 25, 1878.
- 1st Lieut. Daniel E. Marsh, Quartermaster, Bridgeport, May 28, 1877, resigned December 6, 1879.
- 1st Lieut. Thomas L. Watson, Paymaster, Bridgeport, May 28, 1877, appointed A. D. C. to Brig.-Gen. Aug. 14, 1878.
- 1st Lieut. William C. Burke, Jr., Asst. Surgeon, So. Norwalk, May 28, 1877, resigned May 16, 1884.
- George A. Parkington, Chaplain, New Haven, May 28, 1877, died Feb. 11, 1881.
- Colonel George S. Crofut, Bethel, Oct. 12, 1878, died April 1, 1884.
- *Lt. Col. Henry Skinner, Winsted, Oct. 12, 1878.
- *1st Lieut. George S. Rowe, Paymaster, Winsted, Nov. 2, 1878.
- Major Charles E. Doty, Norwalk, Jan. 8, 1879, resigned July 28, 1880.
- 1st Lieut. Henry N. Fanton, Quartermaster, Danbury, Feb. 15, 1880, resigned May 16, 1884.
- *Major James C. Crowe, So. Norwalk, Aug. 18, 1880.
- Samuel Scoville, Chaplain, Stamford, March 19, 1881, resigned May 16, 1884.
- 1st Lieut. Sherman H. Hubbard, Signal Officer, Bridgeport, June 7, 1883, resigned July 26, 1883.
- 1st Lieut. David F. Read, Signal Officer, Bridgeport, Aug. 1, 1883, resigned Feb. 12, 1885.
- *Colonel Thomas L. Watson, Bridgeport, April 23, 1884.
- Captain Tracy B. Warren, Adjutant, Bridgeport, May 16, 1884, appointed Col. and A. D. C. on Staff of Gov. Harrison.
- *1st Lieut. Howard G. Hubbell, Quartermaster, Bridgeport, May 16, 1884.
- *Robert G. S. McNeille, Chaplain, Bridgeport, May 30, 1884.
- *Captain Louis N. VanKeuren, Adjutant, Bridgeport, January 10, 1885.
- *1st Lieut. William W. Starr, Jr., Signal Officer, Bridgeport, March 4, 1885.
- *1st Lieut. Charles S. Murray, Asst. Surgeon, Norwalk, August 16, 1885.

* In service September 20, 1886.



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